E/1998/98

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1998
New York, 22 January and 3 and 6 February 1998

RESUMED ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1998
New York, 7 May 1998

SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1998
New York, 6–31 July and 5 August 1998

RESUMED SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1998
New York, 16 December 1998

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1998

SUPPLEMENT No. 1

UNITED NATIONS

E/1998/98

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

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SUPPLEMENT No. 1

UNITED NATIONS
New York, 2000

NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council are identified as follows:

Resolutions

Until 1977 (up to and including the resumed sixty-third session), the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council were numbered consecutively and were identified by an arabic numeral followed by an indication of the session in parentheses (for example: resolution 1733 (LIV), resolution 1915 (ORG–75), resolution 2046 (S–III), adopted at the fifty-fourth session, the organizational session for 1975 and the third special session, respectively). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter (for example: resolution 1926 B (LVIII), resolutions 1954 A to D (LIX)). The last resolution so numbered is resolution 2130 (LXIII), of 14 December 1977.

Since 1978, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of Council documents, the resolutions have been numbered on a yearly basis and identified by two arabic numerals separated by an oblique stroke, the first numeral indicating the year, the second the number of the resolution in the annual series (for example: resolution 1990/47).

Decisions

Until 1973 (up to and including the resumed fifty-fifth session), the decisions of the Council were not numbered. From 1974 to 1977 (up to and including the resumed sixty-third session), the decisions were numbered consecutively and were identified by an arabic numeral followed by an indication of the session in parentheses (for example: decision 64 (ORG–75), decision 78 (LVIII), adopted at the organizational session for 1975 and the fifty-eighth session, respectively). The last decision so numbered is decision 293 (LXIII), of 2 December 1977.

Since 1978, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of Council documents, the decisions have been numbered on a yearly basis and identified by two arabic numerals separated by an oblique stroke, the first numeral indicating the year, the second the number of the decision in the annual series (for example: decision 1990/224).

In 1998, the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council are being published in *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 1*.

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Adopted by the Council at its 1st plenary meeting, on 22 January 1998

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Proclamation of international years.
5. Reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies: human rights questions.
6. Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields.
7. Elections, nominations and confirmations.
8. Social and human rights questions: advancement of women.

AGENDA OF THE SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1998

Adopted by the Council at its 12th and 50th plenary meetings, on 6 July and 16 December 1998

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

High-level segment

2. Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization.

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

3. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:
    (*a*) Advancement of women: implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development;
    (*b*) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly;
    (*c*) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme.

Coordination segment

4. Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following theme: coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

Humanitarian affairs segment

5. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.

General segment

6. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits.

7. Coordination, programme and other questions:
    (*a*) Reports of coordination bodies;
    (*b*) Malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera;
    (*c*) Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001;
    (*d*) International cooperation in the field of informatics;
    (*e*) Proclamation of an international year of mountains;
    (*f*) International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000.

8. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B.

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

10. Regional cooperation.

11. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.

12. Non-governmental organizations.

13. Economic and environmental questions:
    (*a*) Sustainable development;
    (*b*) Natural resources;
    (*c*) Energy;
    (*d*) International cooperation in tax matters;
    (*e*) Public administration and finance;
    (*f*) Cartography;
    (*g*) Population and development.

14. Social and human rights questions:
    (*a*) Advancement of women;
    (*b*) Social development;
    (*c*) Crime prevention and criminal justice;
    (*d*) Narcotic drugs;
    (*e*) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
    (*f*) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;
    (*g*) Human rights.

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

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1998/286	Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme (E/1998/SR.47)	3 (*c*)	31 July 1998	114
1998/287	Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (E/1998/SR.47)	4	31 July 1998	114
1998/288	Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (E/1998/SR.47)	6	31 July 1998	115
1998/289	Reports of coordination bodies considered by the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/SR.47)	7(*a*)	31 July 1998	115
1998/290	Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields (E/1998/SR.47)	6	31 July 1998	115
1998/291	Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with economic and environmental questions (E/1998/SR.47)	13	31 July 1998	115
1998/292	Freedom of movement and population transfer (E/1998/L.24 and E/1998/SR.47)	14 (*g*)	31 July 1998	116
1998/293	Consideration by the Economic and Social Council of draft recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session (E/1998/L.48)	14 (*g*)	31 July 1998	116

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1998/294	Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with social and human rights questions (E/1998/SR.47)	14	31 July 1998	116
1998/295	Dates of sessions of subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council in 1999 (E/1998/L.44)	1	31 July 1998	116
1998/296	Development account (E/1998/L.50)	8	31 July 1998	117
1998/297	Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (E/1998/L.49/Rev.1)	14 (g)	5 August 1998	117
1998/298	Themes for the 1999 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/L.47)	1	5 August 1998	117

Resumed substantive session of 1998

1998/202 D	Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, nominations, appointments and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions (E/1998/SR.50)	1	16 December 1998	117
1998/299	Theme for the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment of the 1999 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/L.52)	1	16 December 1998	118
1998/300	Issue of the review of the distribution of seats in the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (E/1998/L.52)	1	16 December 1998	118
1998/301	Participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1998/L.52)	1	16 December 1998	118
1998/302	Postponement of consideration of the question of the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/1998/L.50)	1	16 December 1998	119
1998/303	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/1998/L.52)	1	16 December 1998	119

RESOLUTIONS

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1998

1998/1. Proclamation of international years

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, in which, *inter alia*, the Assembly stressed, in annex I, paragraphs 66 and 67, that the primary function of the general segment should be an action-oriented review of the activities, reports and recommendations of the Council's subsidiary bodies and that the Council should regularly review the agenda of its general segment with a view to discontinuing consideration of items not relevant to the work of its subsidiary machinery or duplicative of items on the agenda of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of the guidelines for international years and anniversaries, contained in the annex to its resolution 1980/67 and adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 35/424, for the consideration of proposals for the proclamation of international years,

Recognizing the need to provide for effective arrangements for the proclamation of international years,

Recommends that the General Assembly decide that, starting from the year 1999, proposals for the proclamation of international years should be submitted directly to the Assembly for consideration and action, unless the Assembly decides to bring them to the attention of the Council for evaluation in accordance with the provisions of the above-mentioned guidelines.

3rd plenary meeting
6 February 1998

RESUMED ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1998

1998/2. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions, in particular resolution 52/100 of 12 December 1997, on follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration[1] and the Platform for Action[2] and agreed conclusions and relevant resolutions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council on the follow-up to the Conference,

"*Reaffirming* the commitments made in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action,

"1. *Decides* that the high-level plenary review to appraise and assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women[3] and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[2] five years after its adoption, and to consider further actions and initiatives should be held as a special session of the General Assembly for five days, from 5 to 9 June 2000;

"2. *Also decides* that the special session should reaffirm the commitment to the Platform for Action and should further focus, *inter alia*, on obstacles encountered in implementation as well as on strategies to overcome those obstacles, with a view to implementing fully the Platform and to taking further action and initiatives;

"3. *Recalls* that, in keeping with resolution 52/100, the Commission on the Status of Women will serve as the preparatory committee for the review and will be open-ended for the purposes of the preparations;

"4. *Decides* that the preparatory work, which should be supported by inter-sessional consultations convened by the open-ended Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women as needed, shall be carried out by the Commission at its forty-third and forty-fourth sessions in the years 1999 and 2000 and that the forty-third and forty-fourth sessions shall be extended by five days each to complete the preparations;

"5. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the regional commissions, to develop a standardized questionnaire with a focused set of indicators on all critical areas of concern as a framework to assist Governments in their assessment of and reporting on the implementation of the Platform for Action;

"6. *Encourages* Governments that have not yet done so to submit their national plans of action to the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat by September 1998 as an input to the start of the review during the forty-third session of the

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[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15–26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Commission and, in 1999, to submit information on their implementation of the Platform for Action, focusing in particular on positive actions, lessons learned, obstacles, key challenges remaining and a vision for gender equality in the next millennium;

"7. *Invites* Governments to prepare their national evaluations on the implementation of the Platform for Action with the involvement of civil society;

"8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite all entities of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, to be involved actively in preparatory activities and to participate at the highest level in the special session, including through presentations on best practices, obstacles encountered and a vision for the future to accelerate implementation and address new and emerging trends;

"9. *Encourages* appropriate regional preparatory activities for the special session, *inter alia*, by Governments in cooperation with the regional commissions, and recommends the submission of the results as an input to the Commission at its forty-fourth session, in the year 2000;

"10. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its forty-third session, in addition to the documentation already foreseen in the long-term programme of work of the Commission for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Platform for Action, suggestions on further initiatives and actions that might be considered during the review, with attention to mainstreaming gender equality and to common trends and themes across the twelve critical areas of concern;

"11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide in the report on emerging issues, to be submitted to the Commission at its forty-fourth session, additional material on further actions and initiatives for the preparation of the outlook beyond the year 2000;

"12. *Invites* the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to provide information in 1999 on the implementation of the Platform for Action, based on its review of reports of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[4]

"13. *Invites* the Secretary-General to integrate into his reports information from relevant treaty-monitoring bodies, within their mandates, on their efforts to mainstream a gender perspective;

"14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its special session a comparative report on the ways in which different categories of projects and programmes of United Nations organizations are including women's interests and gender mainstreaming issues and on resources allocated in this regard;

"15. *Recommends* that the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank focus on gender issues in the *Human Development Report* and the *World Development Report* for the year 2000;

"16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide by the end of 1999 a compilation of updated statistics and indicators on the situation of women and girls in countries around the world by issuing, for example, a new volume of *The World's Women*;

"17. *Calls upon* States, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to undertake the necessary measures with a view to providing appropriate information to the public on the implementation of the Platform for Action and the process of preparation for the special session of the General Assembly;

"18. *Emphasizes* the important role of non-governmental organizations in implementing the Platform for Action and the need for their active involvement in preparations for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements for their contributions to the special session;

"19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries at the special session in accordance with past practice."

5th plenary meeting
7 May 1998

SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1998

1998/3. Review of the regional commissions by the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, in which the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to conduct a review of the regional commissions,

Noting that the Economic Commission for Europe, at its fifty-third session, considered a note by the Executive Secretary on relations with other regional, subregional and global organizations and institutions[5] and a report on operational activities and cooperation with subregional groupings, interests and initiatives,[6]

Recalling the principles governing the relationship of the Commission with other bodies as set forth in chapter IV of its Plan of Action,[7]

1. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen cooperation between the Economic Commission for Europe and other bodies according to complementarities in terms of mandates, membership and approaches to issues of common concern;

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[4] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

[5] E/ECE/1362.

[6] E/ECE/1359 and Corr.1.

[7] E/ECE/1347 and Corr.1; see also *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 16* (E/1997/36), annex IV.

2. *Stresses* that, in order to ensure synergies and coherence as well as to avoid duplication and inconsistencies, these relationships should be based on regular exchange of information in common areas of work and on mutual recognition and use of the expertise and experience available in each organization and should lead to joint activities, as appropriate;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of dialogue among the secretariats of institutions and of consistent messages by Governments in different forums in order to maximize cooperation among institutions;

4. *Recognizes* that the Commission has acquired over the years considerable knowledge of countries with economies in transition and has developed long-standing working relationships with those countries in the areas of its expertise;

5. *Stresses* that, in responding to the specific needs of the region, the Commission has two core functions: the development and harmonization of legal instruments, norms and standards in its areas of expertise and the production of statistics and analyses in those areas;

6. *Welcomes* the involvement of interested non-member States in the development and adoption of norms established by the Commission as well as the interest of other regions in using these norms and in adapting them to their concerns and needs;

7. *Emphasizes* that the technical assistance activities of the Commission are limited in scale and are undertaken in support of the functions mentioned in paragraph 5 above, and are directed in particular towards countries with economies in transition;

8. *Stresses* that the Commission also has the role of bringing the contribution of the region to the global level and facilitating the implementation of international commitments in the region with respect to its areas of work;

9. *Takes note* of the information on the relationships that the Commission has built up with other organizations in its areas of cooperation.[8]

35th plenary meeting
20 July 1998

1998/4. Strengthening regional support for persons with disabilities into the twenty-first century

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 1992/289 of 31 July 1992 on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993–2002,

Noting the implementation efforts made during the first half of the Decade by many countries and areas in the Asia and Pacific region, including progress in the adoption of equalization legislation, as well as the intercountry meetings hosted by the Governments of India, Japan, Malaysia and the Philippines on critical issues in the implementation of the Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993–2002[9] related to assistive devices, non-handicapping environments, multisectoral collaboration and national coordination,

Welcoming the Seoul proposals for the second half of the Decade, adopted by the Meeting of Senior Officials to Mark the Mid-point of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993–2002, hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea in September 1997,[10]

Expressing its appreciation to the Subcommittee on Disability-related Concerns of the Regional Inter-Agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific for pioneering collaborative inter-organizational action for the Decade,

Noting the need for a stronger regional impetus to support national and local endeavours in the second half of the Decade,

1. *Requests* the General Assembly to endorse the present resolution and to encourage intergovernmental organizations to support its implementation in order to assist in addressing equalization issues faced by the majority of the world's disabled persons, including disabled women and children, who live in the Asia and Pacific region;

2. *Urges* all members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific:

(*a*) To intensify multisectoral collaborative action towards the fulfilment of the targets for the implementation of the Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993–2002, adopted by the Commission at its forty-ninth session, in April 1993;[11]

(*b*) To contribute to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific technical cooperation trust fund for the Decade to meet capacity-building needs for information and technical assistance in multisectoral collaboration among diverse sectors, in support of the fulfilment of the targets for the Decade;

3. *Urges* all Governments that have not yet signed the Proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality of People with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific Region[12] to do so before the next regional meeting to review the progress of the Decade, to be held in 1999;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to strengthen secretariat assistance to members and associate members by taking the following action:

(*a*) Harnessing the multidisciplinary potential of the secretariat of the Commission to enhance sensitivity to disabilities – that is, by the inclusion of persons with disabilities and/or the consideration of the impact thereof on disability-related concerns – as a performance criterion of the secretariat's overall technical assistance, on a par with other criteria, such as gender sensitivity and relevance to development needs in the countries and areas of the region;

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[8] See E/ECE/1359 and Corr.1 and E/ECE/1362.

[9] E/ESCAP/902, annex II.

[10] For the text, see the ESCAP web site (http://www.unescap.org/decade/seoul.htm).

[11] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 16* (E/1993/36), chap. IV, resolution 49/6.

[12] E/ESCAP/902, annex I.

(*b*) Examining resource allocations within the secretariat with a view to undertaking the adjustments required to enhance secretariat support for disability-related action;

(*c*) Mobilizing resources to replenish continually the technical cooperation trust fund for the purposes of documentation, exchanges and field visits and to disseminate good practices in the implementation of the Agenda for Action, giving special attention to the enhancement of knowledge and skills among persons with disabilities and the equal participation of disabled women and girls;

(*d*) Generating practical guidelines for advancing equal access by disabled persons to mainstream development opportunities by organizing and following up two regional meetings in 1999, in close collaboration with other members of the Subcommittee on Disability-related Concerns of the Regional Inter-Agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific, on the following topics:

(i) Education and technology for the specific needs of disabled children and youth;

(ii) Implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[13] and fulfilment of the targets for the Decade;

(*e*) Exploring the means of organizing, by the end of 2002, a high-level regional meeting to consider the lessons learned from national and area efforts towards the fulfilment of the targets for the Decade, so as to lay a solid foundation for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in mainstream society into the twenty-first century;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission biennially on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, with emphasis on follow-up action to reinforce the impact of the above-mentioned regional meetings, and to submit recommendations to the Commission, as required, concerning continuous secretariat action to improve the opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate in the development process, until 2003, when the overall endeavours of the Decade will be reviewed as a separate agenda item at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, to provide a basis for further action in the new millennium.

35th plenary meeting
20 July 1998

1998/5. Relationships between the Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations agencies and regional and subregional organizations in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Africa, as adopted by the Council in resolution 671 A (XXV) of 29 April 1958 and amended by its resolutions 974 D I (XXXVI) of 5 July 1963, 1343 (XLV) of 18 July 1968 and 1978/68 of 4 August 1978,

Recalling also the various resolutions that have implications for the mandate and operations of the Commission, including, in particular, General Assembly resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, 33/202 of 29 January 1979, 44/211 of 22 December 1989 and 50/120 of 20 December 1995,

Recalling further Commission resolutions 718 (XXVI) of 12 May 1991 on the revitalization of the mandate and operational framework of the regional commission for Africa,[14] 726 (XXVII) of 22 April 1992 on strengthening the Commission to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s,[15] 779 (XXIX) of 4 May 1994 on strengthening the operational capacity of the Commission[16] and 809 (XXXI) of 8 May 1996 on new directions for the Commission,[17]

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/177 of 19 December 1990 and 45/264 of 13 May 1991 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, as well as resolution 46/235 of 13 April 1992, in the annex to which the Assembly stated that the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and that those located in developing countries should be strengthened in the context of the overall objectives of the restructuring and the revitalization process,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform", in which the Assembly invited the Economic and Social Council, in consultation with Member States and appropriate intergovernmental regional bodies, to conduct a general review of the regional commissions at its substantive session of 1998, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and the individual reviews each commission had already carried out, in order to consider the competencies of the regional commissions, taking into account the competencies of global bodies and other regional and subregional intergovernmental bodies,

Having examined the note by the secretariat of the Commission entitled "Reform of the regional commissions: relationships between the Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations agencies, regional and subregional organizations in Africa",[18]

1. *Welcomes* the note by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa entitled "Reform of the

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[13] General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

[14] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 16* (E/1991/37), chap. IV.

[15] Ibid., *1992, Supplement No. 13* (E/1992/33), chap. IV.

[16] Ibid., *1994, Supplement No. 20* (E/1994/40), chap. IV.

[17] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 15* (E/1996/35), chap. IV.

[18] E/ECA/MFC.1/2.

regional commissions: relationships between the Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations agencies, regional and subregional organizations in Africa";[18]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the observations and analyses contained in the note;

3. *Decides* to adopt the following recommendations:

Recommendation 1. Reaffirm and support existing coordination mechanisms at the regional level

An important first step in enhancing collaboration between the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations agencies is to reaffirm and support the team leadership role assigned to the regional commissions by the General Assembly in resolution 32/197. The agencies should use the mechanism of a regional administrative committee on coordination, first suggested in 1994 by the Secretary-General. The Economic and Social Council should consider providing a legislative directive to this effect. The regional administrative committee on coordination would be a useful mechanism for addressing a number of regional issues, including follow-up to the global conferences and programmes on post-conflict reconstruction developments in Africa. In this regard, the forthcoming meeting of the Conference of Ministers, to be held in 1999, should consider in-depth coordination and collaboration among United Nations agencies operating at the subregional and regional levels in Africa;

Recommendation 2. Adopt some principles for regional coordination

The United Nations agencies in Africa should adopt some principles for regional coordination. The agencies should endeavour to foster regional coordination on the basis of promoting greater exchange of information on planned and ongoing work, improve complementarities among programmes, draw on each other's competencies and bring the pool of resources – financial and human – at their disposal to bear on policy issues of common interest;

Recommendation 3. Strengthen coordination at the subregional level

Coordination or collaboration among United Nations agencies in Africa should also be enhanced at the subregional level. This should take the form of the development of joint ventures to support the specific activities of countries in a subregional framework. In this way, the complementarities and harmony sought at the regional level will be given greater impact and impetus. The subregional development centres of the Economic Commission for Africa should be an important vehicle for coordination at the subregional level;

Recommendation 4. The role of the Economic Commission for Africa in normative and operational functions

The Economic Commission for Africa, as a United Nations regional commission and as one of the regional institutions in the service of the development of Africa, has carried out valuable normative (analysis, advocacy, norm-setting) and operational activities that have been mutually complementary and supportive to the member States of the region. The Commission should continue to undertake both categories of activities, since it has been recognized that its technical assistance plays a catalytic role in translating its normative work into concrete support for the development efforts of member States;

Recommendation 5. Enhanced cooperation among African organizations

At the regional level, there is already implicit specialization and division of labour among the three major intergovernmental organizations in Africa, namely the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank. There remains, however, a need to promote a more clear-cut division of responsibilities and to rationalize and strengthen complementarities among the three organizations more strictly, according to their mandates and competencies, as a means of increasing their combined effectiveness, impact and efficiency in their collective mandate, which is to oversee the overall development of Africa at the regional level. This calls for these African organizations to strengthen their joint secretariat by implementing among themselves strategies similar to those outlined above for the United Nations system. In particular, they should:

(*a*) Strengthen coordination, including collaboration in programme development, planning of activities, monitoring and evaluation, with a view to building upon and exploiting complementarities;

(*b*) Improve networking and communication at all staff levels, not only at the level of chief executive;

(*c*) Work to establish a common ethos among their staff, based on a common perspective of Africa's political, social and economic development challenges and opportunities and a common zeal to move Africa forward;

(*d*) Streamline and coordinate their intergovernmental machineries: the governing bodies of all African organizations could be required to summarize, in a joint report, their main decisions for submission to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, which is the supreme organ of the African Economic Community.

35th plenary meeting
20 July 1998

1998/6. Revision of the medium-term plan, 1998–2001, of the Economic Commission for Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the note by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa on the first revision to the medium-term plan, 1998–2001,[19]

Recalling Commission resolution 809 (XXXI) of 8 May 1996, in which the Commission endorsed the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, in the context of the new directions for the Commission,[17]

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[19] E/ECA/MFC.1/3.

Recalling also Commission resolutions 810 (XXXI) of 8 May 1996[17] and 828 (XXXII) of 8 May 1997,[20] in which the Commission called, respectively, for the strengthening of the multinational programming and operational centres and for their transformation into subregional development centres with an extended programme and policy orientation, as well as resolution 824 (XXXI) of 8 May 1996 entitled "Follow-up to the Dakar and Beijing conferences: implementation of the global and regional platforms for action for the advancement of women",[17]

Endorses the revision to the medium-term plan, 1998–2001, involving the establishment of two new subprogrammes: "Promoting the advancement of women" and "Supporting subregional activities for development".

35th plenary meeting
20 July 1998

1998/7. Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1995/7 of 19 July 1995 in which it urged Member States to carry out population and housing censuses during the period 1995–2004,

Taking into account the report of the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination on its nineteenth session, held in New York from 10 to 12 February 1998,[21] which, *inter alia*, addressed the prospects for the 2000 round of population and housing censuses,

Emphasizing the importance of up-to-date population and housing census information for the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[22] at the country level and for decision-making by Governments on a wide range of policy issues,

Mindful of the technical limitations of sample surveys as vehicles for the collection of data on adult mortality, and recognizing that methods exist for the collection of data on deaths in households in the course of a population census,

1. *Invites* Governments to give priority to the planning and undertaking of the next population and housing census;

2. *Recommends* that countries lacking adequate vital-statistics systems give due consideration to the collection and analysis of data in the 2000 round of population censuses for the estimation of levels of mortality;

3. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, donor Governments, through multilateral and bilateral mechanisms, and non-governmental organizations to provide the necessary support to those countries in need in respect of undertaking such censuses, including the building of national capacity in this field.

40th plenary meeting
23 July 1998

1998/8. Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/188 of 18 December 1997 on population and development,

Noting the work being done by the relevant United Nations bodies and the proposed outline of the Secretariat for the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the quinquennial review and appraisal of progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[22] while bearing in mind the views expressed by Member States at the thirty-first session of the Commission on Population and Development,

Stressing the need to ensure that the review of the outcome of the Conference will be a coordinated process which reinvigorates and strengthens efforts at the local, national and international levels to implement fully the Programme of Action,

1. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare, as soon as possible and no later than the end of June 1998, and to make available to States a comprehensive plan, including a timetable, for the preparatory process of inter-agency consultations, technical meetings and round-table meetings, including those at the regional level, setting out the purpose, working methods and key anticipated outcomes of each and how they will contribute to the review and appraisal report. In preparing this plan, the Population Division of the Secretariat and the United Nations Population Fund should work closely together, as they did in the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, and in consultation, as appropriate, with other relevant bodies and should hold regular briefings for States;

2. *Requests* that the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the quinquennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[22] to be coordinated by the Population Division, the report of the international forum on the operational review of the Programme of Action, to be coordinated by the United Nations Population Fund, and the draft report of the Secretary-General for the special session of the General Assembly on the further implementation of the Programme of Action, also to be coordinated by the United Nations Population Fund, all of which are to be prepared for the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-second session, should focus on, *inter alia*:

(*a*) Analysis of key successes and constraints as well as lessons learned in developing effective strategies and actions in the implementation of the Programme of Action and changes in policy, programmes and resource allocations at the national and international levels towards a more comprehensive achievement of the goals of the Conference;

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[20] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 17* (E/1997/37), chap. IV.

[21] E/CN.3/1999/20.

[22] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

(*b*) Strengthening of coordination throughout the United Nations system and between the United Nations system, Governments and other actors, such as the multilateral development banks and civil society;

(*c*) Domestic, bilateral and multilateral resources made available as of 31 December 1998, estimates of resources expected to be made available as of 31 December 1999, examples of effective and efficient use made of available resources and circumstances for improving the environment, with a view to increased financial support from the international community for population and development activities;

(*d*) Methodology and mechanisms for monitoring progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

3. *Decides* that the length of the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development, in March 1999, shall be extended to seven working days.

40th plenary meeting
23 July 1998

1998/9. Situation of women and girls in Afghanistan

The Economic and Social Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[23] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[24] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[25] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[4] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[26] the Beijing Declaration[1] and the Platform for Action[2] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women and other instruments of human rights and international humanitarian law,

Deeply concerned by the continuing and substantiated reports of violations of the human rights of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, in particular in areas under the control of the Taliban, resulting, *inter alia,* in restrictions on movement, denial of equal access of women to health care, prohibition of most forms of female employment, restrictions on education for women and girls, the closing of girls' schools and severe limitations on the enrolment of females in institutions of higher education and on their access to humanitarian assistance,

Welcoming the ongoing work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, in particular his special focus on violations of the human rights of women and girls, especially in territories under the control of the Taliban faction,

Welcoming also the decision of the Secretary-General to send a gender mission to Afghanistan, hoping that it will serve as a model for future efforts to address the gender dimension of crisis or conflict situations, and encouraging the Secretary-General to continue to send such high-level missions, when appropriate,

Taking into account the report of the United Nations Inter-Agency Gender Mission to Afghanistan,[27] led by the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, which took place from 12 to 24 November 1997,

Expressing its appreciation for the international community's support of and solidarity with the women and girls of Afghanistan, being supportive of the women of Afghanistan who protest against violations of their human rights, and encouraging women and men worldwide to continue efforts to draw attention to their situation and to promote the immediate restoration of their ability to enjoy their human rights,

1. *Condemns* the continuing violations of the human rights of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, in all areas of Afghanistan;

2. *Calls upon* all parties within Afghanistan to recognize, protect, promote and act in accordance with all human rights and fundamental freedoms, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments, and to respect international humanitarian law;

3. *Strongly urges* all of the Afghan factions to end discriminatory policies and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of women and men, including their rights to full and equal participation in the life of the country, freedom of movement, access to education and health facilities, employment outside the home, personal security and freedom from intimidation and harassment, with special respect to the implications of discriminatory policies for the distribution of aid;

4. *Appeals* to all States and to the international community to ensure that all humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan integrates gender concerns and actively attempts to promote the participation of both women and men and to promote peace and human rights;

5. *Encourages* the continuing efforts of the United Nations, international and non-governmental organizations and donors to ensure that all United Nations-assisted programmes in Afghanistan are formulated and coordinated in such a way as to promote and ensure the participation of women in those programmes and that women benefit equally with men from such programmes;

6. *Welcomes* the establishment of the ad hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Gender in Afghanistan under the leadership of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, and encourages States to make particular efforts to promote the human rights of women in Afghanistan;

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[23] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[24] General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[25] General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.

[26] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

[27] For the text, see the Women Watch web site (http://www.un.org/womenwatch/news/archive.htm).

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that reports of future gender missions are made available to the Commission on the Status of Women.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/10. Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General concerning the situation of Palestinian women and assistance provided by organizations of the United Nations system,[28]

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[3] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, and the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,[2]

Recalling also its resolution 1997/16 of 21 July 1997 and other relevant United Nations resolutions,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women[29] as it concerns the protection of civilian populations,

Concerned about the stalemate facing the Middle East peace process, including the lack of implementation of the agreements reached in Washington, D.C., between the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel, and the deterioration of the socio-economic conditions of the Palestinian people as a result of the Israeli positions and measures,

Concerned also about the continuing difficult situation of Palestinian women in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and about the severe consequences of continuous illegal Israeli settlement activities as well as the harsh economic conditions and other consequences for the situation of Palestinian women and their families resulting from the frequent closures and isolation of the occupied territory,

1. *Stresses* its support for the Middle East peace process and the need for speedy and full implementation of the agreements already reached between the parties;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli occupation remains a major obstacle for Palestinian women with regard to their advancement, self-reliance and integration into the development planning of their society;

3. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[23] the Regulations annexed to The Hague Convention IV of 18 October 1907[30] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[31] in order to protect the rights of Palestinian women and their families;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to facilitate the return of all refugee and displaced Palestinian women and children to their homes and properties in the occupied Palestinian territory, in compliance with relevant United Nations resolutions;

5. *Urges* Member States, financial organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and other relevant institutions to intensify their efforts to provide financial and technical assistance to Palestinian women for the creation of projects responding to their needs, especially during the transitional period;

6. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[3] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women;[2]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation and to assist Palestinian women by all available means and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-third session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/11. Mid-term review of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996–2001, including the status of women in the Secretariat

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the revised system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996–2001,[32] and the comments of the Commission on the Status of Women contained in Commission resolution 40/10 of 22 March 1996 and the annex thereto,[33]

Noting with concern that a number of obstacles have been encountered in the implementation of the plan,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the mid-term review of the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996–2001,[34] and endorses the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the plan are dealt with effectively, in particular through heightened accountability at all levels, especially that of senior manager, and by including the necessary training, where appropriate;

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[28] E/CN.6/1998/2/Add.2.

[29] See General Assembly resolution 48/104.

[30] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[31] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[32] See E/1996/16.

[33] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1996, Supplement No. 6* (E/1996/26), chap. I, sect. C.2.

[34] E/CN.6/1998/3.

3. *Emphasizes* the need for continued efforts by all entities of the United Nations system to implement the plan fully;

4. *Stresses in particular* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective into the formulation and implementation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and into the United Nations Development Assistance Framework,[35] notably at the country level;

5. *Welcomes* the work of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, in particular its coordination and catalytic role in the area of gender mainstreaming, policy analysis and operational activities in the programmes of work of the bodies of the United Nations system, and its work in compiling good practices, guidelines and indicators in the area of gender mainstreaming;

6. *Urges* Member States, when considering the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, during the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, to integrate fully a gender perspective into those activities;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Development Group to institute guidelines and procedures for the implementation of relevant aspects of the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women[2] into the planning and preparation of the operational activities for development of United Nations funds and programmes;

8. *Recommends* that gender equality and women's empowerment goals be integrated into the continuing United Nations reform process, including in the work of the executive committees, and, in that regard, reaffirms the goal of 50/50 gender distribution by the year 2000 in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the D-1 level and above, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/12. Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women

The Economic and Social Council

Endorses the following conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women with respect to the four critical areas of concern addressed by the Commission at its forty-second session:

I

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The Commission on the Status of Women

Reaffirms the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[2] notably chapter IV.D on violence against women, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;[29]

Requests States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to take into account in their initial and periodic reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women general recommendation 19 on violence against women, adopted by the Committee at its eleventh session,[36] and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;

Requests States parties to international human rights treaties to compile information and report on the extent and the manifestations of violence against women, including domestic violence and harmful traditional practices, and the measures taken to eliminate such violence, for inclusion in reports to the Committee, and to include such information in reports to other treaty bodies;

Proposes, in order to accelerate the implementation of the strategic objectives of chapter IV.D of the Platform for Action:

A. AN INTEGRATED, HOLISTIC APPROACH

Actions to be taken by Governments and the international community

- Formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, which will be widely disseminated and will provide for targets, timetables for implementation and effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations;
- Call upon the international community to condemn and act against all forms and manifestations of terrorism, in particular those that affect women and children;
- Develop strong and effective national, regional and international cooperation to prevent and eliminate trafficking in women and girls, especially for purposes of economic and sexual exploitation, including the exploitation of the prostitution of women and girls;
- Encourage the media to take measures against the projection of images of violence against women and children;

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[35] See A/53/226, paras. 72–77, and A/53/226/Add.1, paras. 88–98.

[36] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), chap. I.

- Strengthen effective partnerships with non-governmental organizations and all relevant agencies to promote an integrated and holistic approach to the elimination of violence against women and girls;

- Integrate effective actions to end violence against women into all areas of public and private life, as a means of working to overcome the violence and discrimination that women face because of such factors as race, language, ethnicity, poverty, culture, religion, age, disability and socio-economic class or because they are indigenous people, migrants, including women migrant workers, displaced women or refugees;

- Ensure that comprehensive programmes for the rehabilitation of victims of rape are integrated into global programmes;

B. PROVISION OF RESOURCES TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST ALL WOMEN

Actions to be taken by Governments, non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors, as appropriate

- Support the work of non-governmental organizations in their activities to prevent, combat and eliminate violence against women;

- Provide adequate resources for women's groups, helplines, crisis centres and other support services, including credit, medical, psychological and other counselling services, as well as focus on vocational skill training for women victims of violence that enables them to find a means of subsistence;

- Provide resources for the strengthening of legal mechanisms for prosecuting those who commit acts of violence against women and girls, and for the rehabilitation of victims;

- Support and encourage partnerships for the establishment of national networks and provide resources for shelters and relief support for women and girls, so as to offer a safe, sensitive and integrated response to women victims of violence, including the provision of programmes designed to heal victims of trafficking and rehabilitate them into society;

- Consider increasing contributions for national, regional and international action to combat violence against women, including for the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences and the Trust Fund in Support of Action to Eliminate Violence against Women of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

- Develop special programmes that would assist women and girls with disabilities in recognizing and reporting acts of violence, including the provision of accessible support services for their protection and safety;

- Encourage and fund the training of personnel in the administration of justice, law enforcement agencies, security, social and health-care services, schools and migration authorities in matters related to gender-based violence, and its prevention, and the protection of women from violence;

- Include in national budgets adequate resources related to the elimination of violence against women and girls;

C. CREATION OF LINKAGES AND COOPERATION WITH REGARD TO PARTICULAR FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Actions to be taken by Governments

- Consider, where appropriate, formulating bilateral, subregional and regional agreements to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers, especially women and girls;

- Develop bilateral, subregional, regional and international agreements and protocols to combat all forms of trafficking in women and girls, and assist victims of violence resulting from prostitution and trafficking;

- Improve the international exchange of information on trafficking in women and girls by recommending the setting up of a data-collection centre within the International Criminal Police Organization, regional law enforcement agencies and national police forces, as appropriate;

- Strengthen the implementation of all relevant human rights instruments in order to eliminate organized and other forms of trafficking in women and girls, including trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation and of pornography;

- Strengthen gender focal points of the regional commissions and further enhance their contributions to gender-balanced development policies, as they have already made significant contributions by helping Member States to build capacities and as regards gender mainstreaming for alleviating gender-based violence against women and have contributed actively to promoting the human rights of women;

D. LEGAL MEASURES

Actions to be taken by Governments

- Ensure the gender-sensitive development of an integrated framework that includes criminal, civil, evidentiary and procedural provisions and that addresses sufficiently the multiple forms of violence against women;

- Take all appropriate measures to develop an integrated and comprehensive legislative framework that addresses sufficiently the multiple forms of violence against women;

- Promote, where necessary, the harmonization of local legislation that penalizes acts of violence against women;

- Provide, in order to respond to the needs of the survivors of violence against women and girls and to assist them towards full recovery and reintegration into society, adequate infrastructure and support services, such as witness protection programmes, restraining orders against perpetrators, crisis centres, telephone hotlines, shelters, provisions for economic support and livelihood assistance;

- Develop guidelines to ensure appropriate police and prosecutorial responses in cases of violence against women;

- Establish and support programmes that provide legal aid and assistance for women and girls bringing complaints relating to gender-based violence through various applicable ways and means, such as support by non-governmental organizations for women with claims relating to violence against women;

- Ensure the accountability of relevant law enforcement agencies for the implementation of policies to protect women from gender-based violence;

- Investigate and, in accordance with national legislation, punish all acts of violence against women and girls, including those perpetrated by public officials;

- Implement strategies and practical measures, taking account of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/86 of 12 December 1997 and contained in the annex thereto;

- Review national legislation in order to effect complete legal prohibition of rape and all forms of violence against women and girls, such as domestic violence, including rape, and to ensure that legislation that protects women and girls from violence is effectively implemented;

- Criminalize all forms of trafficking in women and girls for the purposes of sexual exploitation and penalize all traffickers;

- Take steps to enable women who are victims of trafficking to make complaints to the police and to be available when required by the criminal justice system and ensure that during this time women have access to social, medical, financial and legal assistance, and protection, as appropriate;

- Develop and implement national legislation and policies prohibiting harmful customary or traditional practices that are violations of the human rights of women and girls and obstacles to the full enjoyment by women and girls of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- Ensure that women are safe at work by supporting measures that promote the creation of a workplace environment free from sexual harassment or other violence and encourage all employers to put in place policies designed to eliminate and deal effectively with harassment of women whenever it occurs in the workplace;

- Encourage the participation of women in law enforcement agencies so as to achieve gender balance;

E. RESEARCH AND GENDER-DISAGGREGATED DATA COLLECTION

Actions to be taken by Governments

- Promote coordinated research on violence against women to ensure that it is multidisciplinary and addresses the root factors, including external factors, that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation;

- Encourage research aimed at exploring the nature, extent and causes of violence and collect data and statistics on its economic and social costs, and its consequences, and conduct research on the impact of all laws relevant to combating all forms of violence against women;

- Develop common definitions and guidelines and train relevant actors for the collection of data and statistics on violence against women and ensure that all cases of violence against women are recorded systematically and appropriately, whether they are first reported to the police or to health and social services;

- Sponsor community-based research and national surveys, including the collection of disaggregated data, on violence against women, with regard to particular groups of women, such as women with disabilities, women migrant workers and trafficked women;

- Support evaluations of the impact of measures and policies, in particular with regard to legislative, evidentiary and procedural law reform, to address violence against women with a view to identifying and exchanging good practices and lessons learned, and initiate intervention and prevention programmes;

- Promote the sharing of research results, including information on best practices at the national, regional and international levels;

- Explore the possibility of establishing mechanisms such as national rapporteurs, who report to Governments on the scale, prevention and combating of violence against women, in particular trafficking in women and girls;

Actions to be taken by the United Nations

- Consider ways to share good practices and lessons learned, including establishing a readily accessible database of good practices and lessons learned with regard to all forms of violence against women;

F. CHANGE IN ATTITUDES

Actions to be taken by Governments and civil society, including non-governmental organizations

- Work to create violence-free societies by implementing participatory educational programmes on human rights, conflict resolution and gender equality, for women and men of all ages, beginning with girls and boys;
- Support programmes of peer mediation and conflict resolution for schoolchildren and special training for teachers to equip them to encourage cooperation and respect for diversity and gender;
- Encourage innovative education and training in schools to enhance awareness of gender-based violence by promoting non-violent conflict resolution and short-, mid- and long-term strategic educational goals for achieving gender equality;
- Introduce and invest in comprehensive public awareness campaigns, such as "zero tolerance", that portray violence against women as unacceptable;
- Encourage the promotion in media portrayals of positive images of women and of men, presenting them as cooperative and full partners in the upbringing of their children, and discourage the media from presenting negative images of women and girls;
- Encourage the media to create positive images of women and men as cooperative and crucial actors in preventing violence against women through the development of voluntary international media codes of conduct, on positive images, portrayals and representations of women and on the reporting of violence against women;
- Raise awareness and mobilize public opinion to eliminate female genital mutilation and other harmful traditional, cultural or customary practices that violate the human rights of women and girls and negatively affect their health;
- Promote the responsible use of new information technologies, in particular the Internet, including the encouraging of steps to prevent the use of these technologies for discrimination and violence against women and for trafficking in women for the purposes of sexual exploitation, including the exploitation of the prostitution of women and girls;
- Create policies and programmes to encourage behavioural change in perpetrators of violence against women, including rape, and monitor and assess the impact and effect of such policies and programmes;
- Establish legal literacy programmes to make women aware of their rights and the methods of seeking protection under the law;
- Recognize that women and girls with disabilities, women migrants and refugee women and girls could be particularly affected by violence and encourage the development of programmes for their support;
- Encourage campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations and rights in the event of migration so as to enable women to make informed decisions and to prevent them from becoming victims of trafficking;
- Encourage and support men's initiatives to complement efforts of women's organizations to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls;
- Conduct research on, and create policies and programmes to change, the attitudes and behaviour of perpetrators of violence against women within family and society;
- Actively encourage, support and implement measures aimed at increasing the knowledge and understanding of violence against women, through gender analysis capacity-building and gender-sensitive training for law enforcement officers, police personnel, the judiciary, medical and social workers and teachers;

II

WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT

The Commission on the Status of Women

Reaffirms the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[2] notably chapter IV.E on women and armed conflict;

Proposes the following, taking into account the conclusions of the Commission on the human rights of women, violence against women and the girl child, in order to accelerate the implementation of the strategic objectives of chapter IV.E of the Platform for Action:

A. ENSURING GENDER-SENSITIVE JUSTICE

Actions to be taken by Governments

- Ensure that national legal systems provide accessible and gender-sensitive avenues of redress for victims of armed conflict;
- Ensure that a gender-sensitive perspective is integrated into the drafting and interpretation of international law and domestic legislation, including for the protection of women and girls in armed conflict;

- Support efforts to create an international criminal court that integrates a gender perspective into its statute and functioning, enabling a gender-sensitive interpretation and application of the statute;
- Provide and disseminate to the public in local languages, including to women's groups and non-governmental organizations, information on the jurisdiction of and procedures for accessing the ad hoc war crimes tribunals, the human rights treaty bodies and all other relevant mechanisms; this information should be widely and actively disseminated in cooperation with the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations;
- Protect children in situations of armed conflict, especially the girl child, against participation, recruitment, rape and sexual exploitation through adherence to the applicable principles of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and national legislation;
- Promote a gender balance and gender expertise in all relevant international bodies, at all times, including the International Law Commission, the ad hoc war crimes tribunals and the human rights treaty bodies, having due regard for the principle of equitable geographical distribution;
- Examine and consider modifying existing legal definitions and standards to ensure that they encompass concerns of all women and girls affected by armed conflict and, in particular, reaffirm that rape, systematic rape and sexual slavery in armed conflict constitute war crimes;
- Ensure that, where crimes of sexual violence are committed in situations of conflict, all perpetrators, including those among United Nations and international peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel, are prosecuted;

B. SPECIFIC NEEDS OF WOMEN AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT

Actions to be taken by Governments and international organizations

- Collect and provide information on violations of the human rights of women living under foreign occupation and take steps to ensure the full enjoyment of the human rights of these women;
- Take account of the impact of armed conflict on the health of all women and introduce measures to address the full range of the health needs of women, including those of women with disabilities, and the psychological needs arising from trauma stemming from sexual abuse and the effects of violations of their rights;
- Address the specific needs and concerns of refugee and displaced women and ensure appropriate training for relevant bodies to address the specific needs and concerns of women refugees, who should receive special protection, including the proper design and location of camps and their adequate staffing;
- Recognize the importance of fully involving women in designing rehabilitation policies in post-conflict situations and take steps to assist household economies, including the social and economic conditions of women-headed households and widows;
- Ensure the physical safety and security of all refugee women and girls and those internally displaced by, *inter alia,* adequately providing for and increasing their access to the right of return to their country or place of origin, and the participation of women in the committees responsible for the management of camps, ensure that the camps are designed in accordance with the Guidelines on the Protection of Refugee Women of 1991[37] of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and arrange for gender-sensitive legal, social and medical services in camps and for the talents and capabilities of refugee and displaced women and girls to be integrated fully into the development and implementation of these programmes while they are in such camps;
- Provide refugee victims of sexual violence and their families with adequate medical and psychosocial care, including culturally sensitive counselling, and ensure confidentiality;
- Take measures in accordance with international law with a view to alleviating any negative impact of economic sanctions on women and children;
- Mainstream a gender perspective, as appropriate, into national immigration and asylum policies, regulations and practices, in order to extend protection to those women whose claim for protection is based on gender-related persecution;
- Provide and strengthen assistance to all women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through non-governmental organizations, as appropriate. Refugee women and men must have equal rights in the administration and distribution of goods and services in the camps;
- Condemn and bring to an immediate end massive violations of human rights, especially in the form of genocide, and ethnic cleansing as a strategy of war, and its consequences, such as rape, including the systematic rape of women in war situations;
- Encourage rehabilitation centres to ensure that the knowledge and professions of displaced persons and refugees are utilized;
- Mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian responses to crises and armed conflicts and into post-conflict reconstruction activities;

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[37] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Geneva, 1991.

C. INCREASING THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN PEACEKEEPING, PEACE-BUILDING, PRE- AND POST-CONFLICT DECISION-MAKING, CONFLICT PREVENTION, POST-CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND RECONSTRUCTION

Actions to be taken by Governments and international and regional intergovernmental institutions

- Increase, including through measures of affirmative action, participation and leadership by women in decision-making and in preventing conflict;

- Mainstream a gender perspective into peace-promoting activities at all levels as well as humanitarian and peace-building policies, including through gender analysis and the encouragement of the participation of more female personnel at all levels, in particular at senior or high levels in field missions, and monitor and review such policies, as appropriate, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution where applicable;

- Recognize and support women's non-governmental organizations, in particular at the grass-roots level, in respect of their preventing conflict, including early warning and peace-building;

- Take note of the Kampala Action Plan on Women and Peace, adopted by the Regional Conference on Women, Peace and Development, held at Kampala from 22 to 25 November 1993,[38] as well as the Kigali Declaration on Peace, Gender and Development[39] and the Plan of Action for Conflict-affected Areas,[40] both adopted by the Pan-African Conference on Peace, Gender and Development, held at Kigali from 1 to 3 March 1997, as part of the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women, and, if appropriate, convene conferences to assess progress and promote implementation;

- Regional research and training institutes should carry out research on the role of women in conflict resolution and identify and analyse policies and action programmes;

- Create mechanisms to encourage more women candidates with the appropriate qualifications to apply for judicial, prosecutorial and other positions in all relevant international bodies, in order to achieve gender balance on the basis of equitable geographical distribution;

- Nominate and appoint more women as special representatives in conflict resolution, giving due consideration to the principle of equitable geographical distribution;

- Enhance the role of women in bilateral preventive diplomacy efforts as well as those undertaken by the United Nations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

- Ensure that the participants in humanitarian missions and in peacekeeping operations, both military and civilian, are given specific gender-sensitive training;

- Develop and implement innovative strategies to increase the participation of women in peacekeeping operations and invite the Secretary-General to analyse their effectiveness in his reports on peacekeeping operations, if appropriate, based on the work of an expert group meeting;

- Mainstream a gender perspective into bilateral and multilateral peace-building discussions and the promotion of social development;

D. PREVENTING CONFLICT AND PROMOTING A CULTURE OF PEACE

Actions to be taken by Governments, the international community and civil society, as appropriate

- Integrate a gender perspective into foreign policies and adjust policies accordingly;

- Support the establishment of women-for-peace networks;

- Discourage the adoption of and refrain from any unilateral measure that is not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations and that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular women and children, that hinders their well-being and that creates obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights;

- Ensure that education, including teacher training, promotes peace, respect for human rights, gender sensitivity, tolerance for diversity, including cultural and religious diversity, and pluralism;

- Encourage the incorporation of relevant international humanitarian law principles and their interpretation from a gender perspective into national legal systems;

- Encourage and support the participation of young people in programmes, seminars and workshops on conflict resolution and human rights, negotiations for the peaceful settlement of disputes and the importance of a gender perspective in the promotion of a culture of peace, development and human rights of women;

- Strengthen ongoing efforts to train international peacekeeping forces in human rights and gender sensitivity, provide training regarding codes of conduct and the prevention of violence against women, ensuring that trainers include civilians, women and experts in gender issues, and monitor the impact of this training;

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[38] E/ECA/ATRCW/ARCC.XV/94/7.

[39] A/52/720, annex, sect. 4.

[40] Ibid., sect. 3.

- Enhance the culture of peace and the peaceful settlement of armed conflicts, including through the mass media, audio and video as appropriate;

- Draw upon and utilize the expertise of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations Children's Fund for the preparation of materials for the training of United Nations peacekeepers;

- Continue to make resources available nationally and internationally for the prevention of conflict and ensure participation by women in the elaboration and implementation of strategies for preventing conflict;

- Recognize and support the work done by national machineries for the advancement of women and by non-governmental organizations and work towards mobilizing the action necessary to encourage the achievement by women of a critical mass at the national cabinet level in key ministries and departments and in international organizations that make or influence policy with regard to matters related to collective peace and security;

Actions to be taken by the United Nations

- Acknowledge and support the vital work of non-governmental organizations in the field of peace in efforts towards preventing conflict and for peace-building;

- Organize programmes and seminars to sensitize community leaders and women on the important role that women should play in developing a culture of peace in society;

E. DISARMAMENT MEASURES, ILLICIT ARMS TRAFFICKING, LANDMINES AND SMALL ARMS

Actions to be taken by Governments

- In order to alleviate the suffering of women and children caused by landmines, work towards the objective of eliminating anti-personnel landmines and, in this regard, take due note of the conclusion at Oslo on 18 September 1997 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[41] and its implementation by those States that become parties to it;

- Join international efforts to elaborate international policies to prohibit illicit traffic and trade in and transfer of small arms, and to control their excessive production, with a view to alleviating the suffering of women and children in situations of armed conflict;

- Provide landmine-awareness campaigns or classes in close cooperation with communities and community leaders formally and informally, making them accessible to women in afflicted areas, and provide resources and assistance for landmine clearance and share technology and information so that local populations can engage effectively in the safe clearance of landmines;

- Support programmes for the rehabilitation and social integration of women victims of anti-personnel landmines, and demining and mine-awareness activities;

- Encourage, as appropriate, the role of women in the peace movement, working towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, including disarmament of all types of weapons of mass destruction;

- Work to prevent and put an end to aggression and all forms of armed conflict, thereby promoting a culture of peace;

III

HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The Commission on the Status of Women

Reaffirms the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[2] in particular chapter IV.I on the human rights of women, and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993;[42]

Recommends that the Commission on Human Rights give particular attention to the economic and social rights of women in any discussions it may have at its fifty-fourth session on the question of the appointment and mandate of a special rapporteur on economic, social and cultural rights, or a specific aspect thereof, invites the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women in 1999 on decisions taken by the Commission on Human Rights on this issue, and recommends that the special rapporteur, if appointed, make his or her reports available to the Commission on the Status of Women;

Proposes, in order to accelerate the implementation of the strategic objectives of chapter IV.I of the Platform for Action:

A. CREATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENT CONDUCIVE TO THE ENJOYMENT BY WOMEN OF THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS AND AWARENESS-RAISING

Actions to be taken by Governments, non-governmental organizations, employers, trade unions, the private sector and other actors in civil society, as appropriate

- Ensure universal awareness by all persons, women and men, girls and boys, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and children, including the girl child, through comprehensive human rights education in accordance with the

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[41] See CD/1478.

[42] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, and create and promote a culture of human rights, development and peace;

- Encourage and support broad-based national and community-based dialogues that include women and men, and girls and boys, from diverse backgrounds, on the meaning of human rights, on the obligations thereby created and on gender-specific discrimination and violations;

- Ensure that work, including, *inter alia*, work by treaty bodies within their mandates to develop an understanding of the gender dimensions of human rights, is compiled and widely disseminated and that this gender-sensitive interpretation of human rights is fully integrated into all policies and programmes of international and regional organizations;

- Make reports of United Nations mechanisms that deal with the human rights of women, such as those on discrimination and violence against women, widely available to the public, including the judiciary, parliamentarians and non-governmental organizations;

- Support, encourage and disseminate research and collect gender- and age-disaggregated statistics on factors and multiple barriers that affect the full enjoyment by women of their economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, including their right to development, and on violations that are particular to women, and disseminate the findings and utilize the collected data in assessing the implementation of the human rights of women;

- Develop and implement national legislation and policies prohibiting customary and traditional practices that are harmful to women and that are violations of the human rights of women;

- Eradicate customary or traditional practices, in particular female genital mutilation, that are harmful to or discriminatory against women and that are violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women, through the design and implementation of awareness-raising programmes, education and training;

- Ensure that their personnel periodically receive gender training and are educated and made aware of all human rights of women, men and children;

- Mobilize the resources necessary and create the conditions for the full exercise of the economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights of women;

- Establish and strengthen partnerships and cooperation with each other and with the United Nations system and regional organizations in order to promote more actively the full enjoyment by women of their human rights;

- Ensure that the special conditions of indigenous and other marginalized women are taken fully into consideration within the framework of the human rights of women;

- Mainstream a gender perspective, as appropriate, into national immigration and asylum policies, regulations and practices in order to extend protection to those women whose claim for protection is based on gender-related persecution;

B. LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Actions to be taken by Governments

- Guarantee the existence of a national legal and regulatory framework, including independent national institutions or other appropriate mechanisms, that ensures the full realization of all human rights of women and girls on the basis of equality and non-discrimination, including their right to be free from violence, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments related to human rights and international law;

- Take steps, including a gender-sensitive review of national legislation, to revoke any laws or legal procedures and eradicate practices – national or customary – that promote discrimination on the basis of sex;

- Ensure that women and children have full and equal access to effective legal remedies for violations, including domestic mechanisms, which are monitored and revised to ensure that they function without discrimination, and international mechanisms that address human rights as provided for, *inter alia*, under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[4]

- Promote changes that ensure that women enjoy equal opportunities in law and in practice to claim their rights through national legal systems, including by educating them on these rights as well as ensuring availability of measures such as free or affordable legal aid, legal representation and court appeals procedures, and support existing programmes of non-governmental organizations and other agencies;

C. POLICIES, MECHANISMS AND MACHINERIES

Actions to be taken by Governments

- Ratify and accede to and ensure implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] so that universal ratification of the Convention can be achieved by the year 2000;

- Limit the extent of any reservations to the Convention, formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law and regularly review those reservations with a view to withdrawing them, and withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

- Create channels of communication to promote information exchange between national institutions that address the human rights of women and non-governmental organizations and relevant policy-making bodies of Government;

- Create gender-mainstreaming mechanisms within all policy-making bodies so that women's ability to enjoy their rights is strengthened by all policies and programmes, including through gender-sensitive budgeting;

- Support efforts to create an international criminal court that integrates a gender perspective into its statute and functioning, enabling a gender-sensitive interpretation and application of the statute;

- Mainstream a gender perspective into all economic and social policies in order to promote the human rights of women and girls, including their right to development;

- Adopt measures to ensure by appropriate means that women enjoy equal opportunities to participate in decision-making processes, including parliamentary and other elected assemblies;

Actions to be taken by States parties to human rights instruments

- Promote gender balance in the nomination and election to treaty bodies of independent experts having expertise and sensitivity in regard to gender issues in the field of human rights, giving due consideration to equitable geographical distribution and different legal systems;

- Take note of the report of the Secretariat to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[43] and encourage similar studies by other treaty bodies, as well as by the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly, especially with respect to their effect on the enjoyment by women and girls of their human rights;

- Ensure that their periodic reports to treaty monitoring bodies mainstream a gender perspective;

Actions to be taken within the United Nations system

- Urge the Commission on Human Rights to ensure that all human rights mechanisms and procedures fully incorporate a gender perspective in their work, within their respective mandates;

- The Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination should, as planned, conduct a workshop to clarify the understanding of a rights-based approach to the empowerment and advancement of women and to gender equality, drawing on the work already being done in this regard by the United Nations Development Fund for Women and others;

- The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat should strengthen and improve coordination in general human rights activities within their respective mandates and continue to prepare the joint annual work plan;

- The Office of the High Commissioner and the Division should continue to prepare the joint annual work plan and strengthen cooperation and coordination in human rights activities, in particular:

  (*a*) By collaborating in the writing of reports for the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights, the first initiative of this type[44] being welcomed;

  (*b*) By sharing information systematically on the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, its sessions and documentation, in order to ensure that its work will be better integrated into the work of the other treaty bodies and United Nations human rights activities;

  (*c*) Through capacity-building to implement agreed conclusions 1997/2, adopted on 18 July 1997 by the Economic and Social Council, on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[45] in particular training and gender sensitization, especially of human rights monitors;

- Take further steps to increase cooperation and promote integration of objectives and goals among the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, as well as the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and other United Nations funds and programmes;

- Cooperation, communication and exchange of expertise should be enhanced between the Commission on the Status of Women and other functional commissions of the Economic and

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[43] CEDAW/C/1997/4.

[44] E/CN.4/1998/22-E/CN.6/1998/11.

[45] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* and addendum (A/52/3/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

Social Council, including the Commission on Human Rights, in order to promote more effectively the human rights of women;

- The treaty bodies, within their mandates, should continue to promote a better understanding of the rights contained in international human rights instruments and their particular significance to women;
- Given the importance of general comments in clarifying the provisions of human rights treaties, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women is invited to draw up joint general comments with other treaty bodies, within their respective mandates, on the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of human rights and should discuss these and other collaborative activities at the annual meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies;
- The treaty bodies should continue to develop working methods that facilitate communications between non-governmental organizations, treaty bodies and the States parties;
- The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is commended for establishing the Gender and Human Rights of Women Team for studying, within the mandate of the Office, the human rights of women; the team should be given the necessary support by the most senior levels of management and decision-making to carry out its work effectively;
- Specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system, as well as international financial and national trade organizations, should develop innovative ways of integrating the promotion of the enjoyment by women of their human rights into all their policies and programmes;

IV

THE GIRL CHILD

The Commission on the Status of Women

Reaffirms the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[2] notably chapter IV.L on the girl child, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted on 25 June 1993 by the World Conference on Human Rights,[42] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[26]

Proposes, in order to accelerate the implementation of the strategic objectives of chapter IV.L of the Platform for Action:

A. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE GIRL CHILD

Actions to be taken by Governments, local authorities, non-governmental organizations and civil society and the United Nations system, as appropriate

- Promote further the enjoyment by children, in particular the girl child, of their human rights by the elaboration of an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on measures for the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
- Organize community-based actions, including the setting up of local committees to create awareness of and monitor conformity with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, with a special focus on the situation of adolescent girls and young mothers;
- Conduct awareness-raising campaigns designed to mobilize communities, including community leaders, religious organizations, parents and other family members, especially male family members, with regard to the rights of the child, giving special emphasis to the girl child, and monitor changes in attitudes;
- Conduct awareness-raising campaigns and gender training targeted at law enforcement and justice system officials with regard to the rights of the child, giving special attention to the girl child;
- Eliminate traditional and customary practices that constitute son preference through awareness-raising campaigns and gender training;
- Recognize and promote the contribution of girls and boys to development;
- Promote non-discriminatory treatment of girls and boys in the family and, in this regard, adopt measures to ensure equal access by girls and boys to food, education and health;

Actions to be taken by States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

- Include comprehensive information and sex- and age-disaggregated data on children in their reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and invite the treaty monitoring bodies to pay special attention to the rights of the girl child while assessing those reports;
- Ensure that any reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child are formulated as precisely and as narrowly as possible and that they are not incompatible with the object and purpose of those conventions and review the reservations to those conventions with a view to withdrawing them;

B. EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT OF THE GIRL CHILD

Actions to be taken by Governments, educational institutions and the United Nations system, as appropriate

- Consider drawing upon the findings and recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on

Adolescent Girls and Their Rights, held at Addis Ababa from 13 to 17 October 1997;[46]

- Consider making primary education compulsory;

- Ensure universal enrolment and retention of girls in school and the continued education of pregnant adolescents and young mothers in order to guarantee basic education to the girl child;

- Encourage all levels of society, including parents, Governments and non-governmental organizations, to support the implementation of educational policies to enhance gender awareness in the community;

- Provide gender-sensitive training for school administrators, parents and all members of the school community, such as local administrators, staff, teachers, school boards and students;

- Review teaching materials, including textbooks, to promote the self-esteem of women and girls through positive self-images and revise these materials, highlighting the effective role of women in society, including in decision-making, development, culture, history, sports and other social, political and economic endeavours;

- Develop programmes of sensitization on the gender perspective for staff of government offices working on educational issues concerning indigenous and rural girls and develop educational materials adapted to their situation;

- Identify the special needs of girls in difficult circumstances, including girls from migrant families, refugee and displaced girls, girls from ethnic minorities, indigenous girls, orphaned girls, girls with disabilities and other girls with special needs, and provide the resources necessary to address their needs;

- Involve girls, including girls with special needs, and their representative organizations in the decision-making process and include them as full and active partners in identifying their own needs and in designing, planning, implementing and assessing policies and programmes to meet those needs;

- Provide training opportunities for girls to develop their skills in leadership, advocacy and conflict resolution;

- Make visible girls' and boys' unpaid work in the household by conducting research and documenting gender differences, in particular in rural communities, note the implications of household work for equal access by girls to basic and further education and career development and take measures to redress imbalances and eliminate discrimination;

C. HEALTH NEEDS OF GIRLS

Actions to be taken by Governments, civil society and the United Nations system, as appropriate

- Protect the girl child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse by taking appropriate measures, including, for example, designing and implementing legislation;

- Encourage parents, coalitions of concerned organizations and individuals, especially political leaders, popular and community figures and the media, to advocate for children's health, including adolescent girls' reproductive and sexual health;

- Eradicate all customary or traditional practices, in particular female genital mutilation, that are harmful to or discriminate against women and girls and that are violations of the human rights of women and obstacles to the full enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, through the design and implementation of awareness-raising programmes, education and training, as well as programmes to help the victims of such practices to overcome their trauma;

- Develop and implement national legislation and policies prohibiting customary or traditional practices that are violations of the human rights of women and obstacles to the full enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms and prosecute the perpetrators of practices that are harmful to the health of women and girls;

- Make widely available to adolescent girls and boys information and counselling, especially on human relationships, reproductive and sexual health, sexually transmitted diseases and adolescent pregnancy, that are confidential and easily accessible and emphasize the equal responsibility of girls and boys;

- Improve health care for adolescent girls by health personnel and provide the latter with appropriate training and encourage health-care personnel to work with girls to understand their special needs;

- Recognize and protect from discrimination pregnant adolescents and young mothers and support their continued access to information, health care, nutrition, education and training;

- Support the activities of non-governmental organizations in the area of reproductive health and health orientation centres for girls;

- Enact laws concerning the minimum age for marriage and raise the minimum age for marriage when necessary in order to ensure respect for the rights of the child, as stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

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[46] See EGM/AGR/1997/Rep.1.

D. GIRLS IN ARMED CONFLICT

Actions to be taken by the United Nations and Governments

- Incorporate information on the rights of the child in the mandates and operational guidelines of peacekeeping forces, the military and humanitarian workers and provide them with gender-sensitive training;

- Encourage girls and other individuals and communities to play a key role in reporting violations of the rights of girls in armed conflict to the appropriate authorities and ensure adequate, accessible and gender-sensitive support services and counselling;

- Protect the girl child in situations of armed conflict against participation in armed conflicts, recruitment, rape and sexual exploitation, in particular through the adoption of an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as recommended by the General Assembly;

- Take measures to address the special needs of girls for protection and for gender-appropriate support and counselling centres in refugee camps, and in resettlement and reintegration efforts;

- Create and respect zones of peace for children in armed conflict;

E. TRAFFICKING, INCLUDING FOR PURPOSES OF PROSTITUTION AND OTHER FORMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Actions to be taken by Governments, international organizations and civil society

- Collect information and raise public awareness on the issue of trafficking, physical and psychological abuse and sexual exploitation of girls in order better to design and improve preventive programmes;

- Consider implementing the recommendations of the Declaration and Agenda for Action of the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996;[47]

- Establish recovery programmes for children who have been abused or sexually exploited, with specially trained personnel to provide a safe and supportive environment;

Actions to be taken by Governments

- Enact and enforce laws that prohibit sexual exploitation, including prostitution, incest, abuse and trafficking of children, paying special attention to girls;

- Prosecute and punish persons and organizations engaged in and/or promoting the sex industry, sexual exploitation, acts of paedophilia, trafficking in organs, child pornography and sex tourism involving minors and condemn and penalize all those offenders involved, whether local or foreign, while ensuring that children who are victims of those practices are not penalized;

- Design mechanisms and strengthen international cooperation in order better to protect girls and bring to justice the perpetrators of such crimes;

- Adopt measures that ensure that judicial and legal processes are sensitive to the specific needs of abused girls to prevent further traumatization or victimization;

F. LABOUR AND THE GIRL CHILD

Actions to be taken by Governments, international organizations and the private sector

- Consider ratifying and implementing international agreements that are designed to protect children, including conventions of the International Labour Organization, and bring national legislation into conformity with those agreements in order to protect the girl child;

- Ensure that girls who work have access to education and vocational training, health care, food, shelter and recreation on equal and favourable conditions and are protected from economic exploitation, sexual harassment and abuse in the workplace;

- Pay special attention to girls in the informal sector, such as domestic workers, and develop measures to protect their human rights and fundamental freedoms and prevent their economic exploitation, ill-treatment and sexual abuse;

- Raise government and public awareness as to the nature and scope of the special needs of girls employed as domestic workers and of those performing excessive domestic chores in their own households and develop measures to prevent their economic exploitation and sexual abuse;

- Contribute actively to efforts at the 1998 session of the International Labour Conference to draw up a new international convention to eliminate the most abhorrent forms of child labour;

- Consider the implementation of the actions identified in the Agenda for Action of the Oslo Conference on Child Labour, held from 27 to 30 October 1997;[48]

G. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Actions to be taken by Governments and the United Nations system

- Prepare programmes for the girl child as part of national action plans in order to implement fully the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women;[2]

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[47] A/51/385, annex.

[48] A/53/57.

- The organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, as the agency mandated to deal with the rights and concerns of children, should give greater attention to the girl child through Fund country programmes, using its goodwill ambassadors for raising awareness on the situation of the girl child at the national, regional and international levels;
- The Secretary-General should submit a report on the girl child to the Commission on the Status of Women prior to the five-year review of the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women;
- Base programmes and policies for the girl child on the rights of the child, the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents and the evolving capacity of the girl child, in accordance with the Platform for Action and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/13. Preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 52/91 of 12 December 1997, on preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

"*Considering* that, pursuant to its resolutions 415 (V) of 1 December 1950 and 46/152 of 18 December 1991, the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders is to be convened in the year 2000,

"*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/32 of 27 July 1993 and the draft rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders annexed to that resolution,

"*Emphasizing* the role of the Tenth Congress as a consultative body of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in accordance with paragraph 29 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the Programme annexed to resolution 46/152,

"*Aware* of the important work to be accomplished by the regional preparatory meetings for the Tenth Congress,

"*Stressing* the importance of undertaking all the preparatory activities for the Tenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

"*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the preparations for the Tenth Congress,[49]

"1. *Accepts with gratitude* the invitation of the Government of Austria to host the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders at Vienna;

"2. *Decides* to hold the Tenth Congress from 10 to 17 April 2000, with pre-congress consultations to be held on 9 April 2000;

"3. *Approves* the following provisional agenda for the Tenth Congress, finalized by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventh session:

"1. Opening of the Congress.

"2. Organizational matters.

"3. Promoting the rule of law and strengthening the criminal justice system.

"4. International cooperation in combating transnational crime: new challenges in the twenty-first century.

"5. Effective crime prevention: keeping pace with new developments.

"6. Offenders and victims: accountability and fairness in the justice process.

"7. Adoption of the report of the Congress;

"4. *Notes* that the Commission, at its seventh session, reviewed a draft discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Tenth Congress;[50]

"5. *Endorses* the programme of work for the Tenth Congress, including the holding of four practical-oriented technical workshops on the following subjects:

"(*a*) Combating corruption;

"(*b*) Crimes related to the computer network;

"(*c*) Community involvement in crime prevention;

"(*d*) Women in the criminal justice system;

"6. *Decides* that the theme of the Tenth Congress should be 'Crime and justice: meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century';

"7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the workshops, and invites Member States, non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities to support financially, organizationally and technically the preparations for the workshops, including the preparation and circulation of relevant background material;

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[49] E/CN.15/1998/2.

[50] E/CN.15/1998/2/Add.1/Rev.1.

"8. *Welcomes* the offer of the institutes constituting the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network to assist in the preparations for the workshops;

"9. *Invites* donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation in the workshops;

"10. *Encourages* Governments to undertake preparations for the Tenth Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees, with a view to contributing to a focused and productive discussion on the topics and to participating actively in the organization and follow-up of the workshops;

"11. *Decides*, without prejudice to the current preparatory arrangements for the Tenth Congress, to streamline and minimize the costs of the preparation and servicing of the regional preparatory meetings by shortening their duration and limiting their documentation, by holding them in conjunction with other regional meetings or, if they are not absolutely necessary, by not convening them at all;

"12. *Also decides* that the savings achieved should be used in servicing meetings and in supporting the priority programme activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat;

"13. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

"(*a*) To undertake the necessary logistic steps, in collaboration with Member States and the institutes constituting the Programme network, to mobilize the participation of interested partners in the preparations for the four workshops;

"(*b*) To ensure, in collaboration with Member States, a wide and effective programme of public information related to the preparations for the Tenth Congress, to the Congress itself and to the implementation of its conclusions;

"14. *Requests* the Commission, as the preparatory body for the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, to accord high priority at its eighth session to the finalization in good time of all the necessary organizational and substantive arrangements;

"15. *Also requests* the Commission, at its eighth session, to prepare a draft declaration for submission to the Tenth Congress, taking into account the results of the regional preparatory meetings;

"16. *Urges* the regional preparatory meetings to examine the substantive items of the agenda and workshop topics of the Tenth Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations to serve as a basis for the draft declaration to be considered by the Commission at its eighth session;

"17. *Requests* the Tenth Congress to elaborate a single declaration containing its recommendations on the various substantive items of its agenda with a view to submitting that declaration to the Commission for consideration at its ninth session;

"18. *Decides* that the Commission, at its tenth session, should undertake a review of the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, including the issue of regional preparatory meetings;

"19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighth session."

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/14. Transnational organized crime

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 49/159 of 23 December 1994 and 52/85 of 12 December 1997,

"*Taking note* of the Buenos Aires Declaration on Prevention and Control of Organized Transnational Crime, adopted by the Regional Ministerial Workshop on Follow-up to the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime, held at Buenos Aires from 27 to 30 November 1995,[51] the Dakar Declaration on the Prevention and Control of Organized Transnational Crime and Corruption, adopted by the African Regional Ministerial Workshop on Organized Transnational Crime and Corruption, held at Dakar from 21 to 23 July 1997,[52] and the Manila Declaration on the Prevention and Control of Transnational Crime, adopted by the Asian Regional Ministerial Workshop on Organized Transnational Crime and Corruption, held at Manila from 23 to 25 March 1998,[53]

"*Convinced* of the importance of continuous action by Member States aimed at the full implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime, adopted by the

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[51] E/CN.15/1996/2/Add.1, annex.

[52] E/CN.15/1998/6/Add.1, sect. I.

[53] E/CN.15/1998/6/Add.2, sect. I.

World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime, held at Naples, Italy, from 21 to 23 November 1994,[54]

"*Convinced also* of the need to proceed expeditiously with the elaboration of a convention against transnational organized crime,

"*Mindful* of the fact that, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1997/232 of 21 July 1997, the theme for the seventh session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was 'Organized transnational crime',

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime: question of the elaboration of an international convention against organized transnational crime, and other possible international instruments;[55]

"2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Poland for acting as host to the meeting of the intersessional open-ended intergovernmental group of experts, established pursuant to resolution 52/85, on the elaboration of a preliminary draft of a possible comprehensive international convention against organized transnational crime, held at Warsaw from 2 to 6 February 1998;

"3. *Welcomes with appreciation* the report of the meeting of the intergovernmental group of experts;[56]

"4. *Urges* Member States to continue to make every possible effort to implement fully the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan by taking the most appropriate legislative, regulatory and administrative measures, including those aimed at prevention;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his work on the development and maintenance of the central repository established pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/27 of 24 July 1996;

"6. *Urges* Member States to respond promptly to the requests of the Secretary-General for data, and other information and material, including legislation and pertinent regulatory texts, by submitting such information and material in accordance with the methodological points and categorization of data set forth in annex II to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/22 of 21 July 1997, in order to facilitate the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his work on the elaboration of training manuals for law enforcement and judicial personnel on action against transnational organized crime;

"8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to identify and allocate, within the overall budget of the United Nations, adequate resources for strengthening the capacity of the Centre for International Crime Prevention in order to assist Member States in the full implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan;

"9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide Member States with technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance upon request in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the area of prevention and control of transnational organized crime;

"10. *Decides* to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration, as appropriate, of international instruments addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea;

"11. *Welcomes with appreciation* the offer of the Government of Argentina to host an informal preparatory meeting of the intergovernmental ad hoc committee at Buenos Aires from 31 August to 4 September 1998, so as to ensure the continuation without interruption of work on the elaboration of the convention;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene a meeting of the intergovernmental ad hoc committee at Vienna from 18 to 29 January 1999 and to consider the possibility of convening a second meeting before the eighth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, if this proves necessary to advance the process;

"13. *Decides* to accept the recommendation of the Commission to elect Luigi Lauriola (Italy) as the Chairman of the intergovernmental ad hoc committee;

"14. *Requests* the intergovernmental ad hoc committee, in carrying out its work pursuant to paragraph 10 above, to take into account the report of the intergovernmental group of experts, the report of the working group on the implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime,[57] including its appendices, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1998/18, 1998/19 and 1998/20 of 28 July 1998;

"15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources to convene, support and follow up the work of the intergovernmental ad hoc committee;

"16. *Invites* donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation in the work of the intergovernmental ad hoc committee;

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[54] A/49/748, annex, chap. I, sect. A.

[55] E/CN.15/1998/6.

[56] E/CN.15/1998/5.

[57] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/1998/30 and Corr.1), annex III.

"17. *Requests* the intergovernmental ad hoc committee to submit a progress report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighth session and to hold a meeting during that session for at least three working days."

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/15. Mutual assistance and international cooperation in criminal matters

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Bearing in mind* that the United Nations model treaties on international cooperation in criminal matters provide important tools for the development of international cooperation,

"*Convinced* that existing arrangements governing international cooperation in criminal justice must be regularly reviewed and revised to ensure that the specific contemporary problems of fighting crime are effectively addressed,

"*Bearing in mind* that developing countries and countries with economies in transition may lack the resources for developing and implementing treaties on mutual assistance in criminal matters,

"*Convinced* that complementing and supplementing the United Nations model treaties will contribute to increased efficiency in combating criminality,

"*Recalling* its resolution 45/117 of 14 December 1990, by which it adopted the Model Treaty on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, annexed to that resolution,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 52/88 of 12 December 1997,

"*Commending* the work of the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, held at Arlington, United States of America, from 23 to 26 February 1998, to implement in part resolution 52/88 by proposing complementary provisions for the Model Treaty, elements for inclusion in model legislation on mutual assistance in criminal matters, and training and technical assistance for national officials engaged in that field,

"*Commending also* the Government of the United States of America for hosting the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting, for its substantial contribution to the organization of the Meeting and for the support given by the National Institute of Justice of the United States Department of Justice through the programme of the United Nations On-line Crime and Justice Clearing House,

"1. *Welcomes* the report of the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, held at Arlington, United States of America, from 23 to 26 February 1998;[58]

"2. *Decides* that the Model Treaty on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters should be complemented by the provisions set forth in annex I to the present resolution;

"3. *Encourages* Member States, within the framework of national legal systems, to enact effective legislation on mutual assistance, and calls upon the international community to give all possible assistance in order to contribute to the achievement of that goal;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to elaborate, in consultation with Member States, for submission to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, model legislation on mutual assistance in criminal matters, in order to enhance effective cooperation between States, taking into account the elements recommended by the Intergovernmental Expert Group on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters for inclusion in such model legislation, which are set forth in annex II to the present resolution;

"5. *Invites* Member States to take into account the Model Treaty in negotiating treaties at the bilateral, regional or multilateral level, as appropriate;

"6. *Also invites* Member States to consider, where applicable and within the framework of national legal systems, the following measures in the context of the application of treaties on mutual assistance in criminal matters or other arrangements for such mutual assistance:

"(*a*) Establishing or designating a national central authority or authorities to process requests for assistance;

"(*b*) Undertaking regular reviews of their treaties on mutual assistance in criminal matters or other arrangements and implementing legislation, as well as taking other necessary measures for the purpose of rendering such arrangements and legislation more efficient and effective in combating established and emerging forms of crime;

"(*c*) Concluding asset-sharing arrangements as a means of enabling forfeited proceeds of crime to be used to strengthen the capacity of national criminal justice systems and contributing a part of such proceeds to programmes such as those aimed at enhancing national capacities for fighting crime in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition, paying due consideration to the rights of bona fide third parties;

"(*d*) Making use of videoconferencing and other modern means of communications for, *inter alia*, the transmission of requests, consultation between central authorities, the taking of testimony and statements, and training;

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[58] E/CN.15/1998/7, annex.

"7. *Encourages* Member States to promote, on a bilateral, regional or worldwide basis, measures to improve the skills of officials in order to strengthen mutual assistance mechanisms, such as specialized training and, whenever possible, secondment and exchanges of relevant personnel, and to consider the use of videoconferencing and other modern means of communications for training purposes;

"8. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to provide to the Secretary-General copies of relevant laws and information on practices related to international cooperation in criminal matters and, in particular, to mutual assistance in criminal matters, as well as updated information on central authorities designated to deal with requests;

"9. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

"(*a*) To update and disseminate regularly the information mentioned in paragraph 8 above and, in particular, to prepare, for use by Member States, a directory of central authorities responsible for mutual legal assistance, drawing on the information already collected during the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting;

"(*b*) To continue to provide advisory and technical cooperation services to Member States requesting assistance in drafting and implementing appropriate national legislation and in developing and implementing bilateral, subregional, regional or international treaties on mutual assistance in criminal matters, drawing on the expertise of Member States as appropriate;

"(*c*) To provide, in cooperation with interested Member States and relevant intergovernmental organizations, training in mutual assistance law and practice for personnel in appropriate governmental agencies and for central authorities of requesting Member States in an effort to develop the necessary skills and to improve communication and cooperation aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of mutual assistance mechanisms;

"10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with interested Member States, relevant intergovernmental organizations and the institutes constituting the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, to develop appropriate training materials for use in providing to requesting Member States the technical assistance referred to above;

"11. *Commends* the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences of Siracusa, Italy, for its offer to organize and host up to two training seminars for mutual assistance officials, and invites interested Member States to provide voluntary contributions to offset the travel costs of officials from developing countries and from countries with economies in transition and to make substantive contributions to the seminars;

"12. *Urges* Member States and funding agencies to assist the Secretary-General in implementing the present resolution through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund;

"13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the provisions of the present resolution.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

"ANNEX I

"Complementary provisions for the Model Treaty on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters

"Article 1

"1. In paragraph 3 (*b*), replace the words 'Optional Protocol to' with the words 'article 18 of'.

"Article 3

"2. In the title, replace the word 'competent' with the word 'central'.

"3. Insert the word 'central' before the word 'authority'.

"4. Add the following footnote to the end of the article:

> 'Countries may wish to consider providing for direct communications between central authorities and for the central authorities to play an active role in ensuring the speedy execution of requests, controlling quality and setting priorities. Countries may also wish to agree that the central authorities are not the exclusive channel for assistance between the Parties and that the direct exchange of information should be encouraged to the extent permitted by domestic law or arrangements.'

"Article 4

"5. In the footnote to paragraph 1, replace the last sentence with the following:

> 'Countries may wish, where feasible, to render assistance, even if the act on which the request is based is not an offence in the requested State (absence of dual criminality). Countries may also consider restricting the requirement of dual criminality to certain types of assistance, such as search and seizure.'

"6. In paragraph 1 (*d*) delete the words 'that is subject to investigation or prosecution in the requested State or'.

"7. Add the following footnote to the end of paragraph 4:

> 'States should consult in accordance with article 20 before assistance is refused or postponed.'

"Article 5

"8. Add the following footnote to the end of paragraph 2:

'Countries may wish to provide that the request may be made by modern means of communication, including in particularly urgent cases verbal requests that are confirmed in writing forthwith.'

"*Article 6*

"9. Add the following footnote to the end of the article:

'The requested State should secure such orders, including judicial orders, as may be necessary for the execution of the request. Countries may also wish to agree, in accordance with national legislation, to represent or act on behalf or for the benefit of the requesting State in legal proceedings necessary to secure such orders.'

"*Article 8*

"10. Add the following words to the end of the footnote to the article:

', or restrict use of evidence only where the requested State makes an express request to that effect.'

"11. Add the following words to the beginning of the article: 'Unless otherwise agreed,'.

"*Article 11*

"12. Add the following footnote to the end of paragraph 2:

'Wherever possible and consistent with the fundamental principles of domestic law, the Parties should permit testimony, statements or other forms of assistance to be given via video link or other modern means of communication and should ensure that perjury committed under such circumstances is a criminal offence.'

"*Article 12*

"13. In the English version of paragraph 1, replace the word 'required' with the words 'called upon'.

"14. Add the following footnote to the end of the article:

'Some countries may wish to provide that a witness who is testifying in the requesting State may not refuse to testify on the basis of a privilege applicable in the requested State.'

"*New article 18*

"15. Insert as new article 18, entitled 'Proceeds of crime', paragraphs 1 to 6 of the Optional Protocol to the Model Treaty on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters concerning the proceeds of crime and delete the remaining text of the Optional Protocol, including the footnotes.

"16. Replace the word 'Protocol' with the word 'article' throughout the new article.

"17. Add the following footnote to the end of the title of the new article:

'Assistance in forfeiting the proceeds of crime has emerged as an important instrument in international cooperation. Provisions similar to those outlined in the present article appear in many bilateral assistance treaties. Further details can be provided in bilateral arrangements. One matter that could be considered is the need for other provisions dealing with issues related to bank secrecy. Provisions could be made for the equitable sharing of the proceeds of crime between the Contracting States or for consideration of the disposal of the proceeds on a case-by-case basis.'

"18. Add the following footnote to the end of paragraph 5:

'The Parties might consider widening the scope of the present article by the inclusion of references to victims' restitution and the recovery of fines imposed as a sentence in a criminal prosecution.'

"*Articles 18–21*

"19. Renumber former article 18 as article 19 and renumber all subsequent articles accordingly.

"ANNEX II

"Elements recommended for inclusion in model legislation on mutual assistance in criminal matters

"A. *General recommendation*

"1. Model legislation on mutual assistance in criminal matters should reflect in statutory terms the general provisions of the Model Treaty on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, together with the recommendations contained in annex I above. To the extent possible, it should provide different options for States with different legal systems. Where relevant, it should take into account provisions of the model bill on mutual assistance in criminal matters developed in 1998 by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

"B. *Scope*

"2. The model legislation should provide a full range of flexible options for assuming mutual assistance obligations. When there is a treaty on mutual assistance in criminal matters, the terms of that treaty should govern the relationship. The legislation should also permit mutual assistance to be provided without a treaty, with or without reciprocity.

"C. *Jurisdiction*

"3. The model legislation could contain provisions to provide for jurisdiction, *inter alia*:

"(*a*) To issue judicial orders necessary for executing mutual assistance requests;

"(*b*) To authorize the requested State to act on behalf or for the benefit of, or to represent the interests of, the requesting State in legal proceedings necessary for executing mutual assistance requests;

"(*c*) To punish perjury committed during mutual assistance, in particular perjury committed during videoconferencing.

"D. *Procedure*

"4. The model legislation should include options for procedures dealing with both incoming and outgoing requests for assistance in criminal matters. Such procedures should be in conformity, whenever applicable, with international and regional human rights instruments. Where no treaty provision is applicable, the legislation could also contain provisions on specific forms of mutual assistance, including testimony and other forms of cooperation carried out via video link, cooperation in asset seizure and forfeiture and the temporary transfer of witnesses in custody.

"5. The model legislation could provide for the establishment of a central authority or authorities for the receipt and transmission of requests and the provision of advice and assistance to relevant authorities. The legislation could also specify the extent of the central authority's powers.

"E. *Communications*

"6. Where no treaty provision is applicable, the legislation should set forth the means of communicating between the requesting State and the requested State, allowing for use of the most modern forms of communication."

1998/16. Action against corruption

The Economic and Social Council,

Concerned about the seriousness of problems posed by corruption, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and morality and jeopardize social, economic and political development,

Convinced that existing arrangements for combating corruption at the national and international levels must be periodically reviewed and modernized to ensure that the specific contemporary problems of fighting all forms of corruption are being effectively addressed at all times,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 51/59 of 12 December 1996,

Recalling also its resolution 1995/14 of 24 July 1995,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 52/87 of 12 December 1997, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to invite each Member State to provide a report on steps taken to implement the provisions of the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions,[59]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on action against corruption and bribery,[60]

Recalling the manual prepared by the Secretariat on practical measures against corruption,[61]

Aware of recent multilateral initiatives to combat corruption, including the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions, the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials,[62] the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, adopted by the Organization of American States on 29 March 1996,[63] the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, adopted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development on 21 November 1997,[64] the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests of 26 July 1995[65] and the Protocols of 27 September 1996 and 19 June1997 to that Convention,[66] drawn up by the Council of the European Union on the basis of article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, the Convention on the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Communities or officials of member States of the European Union, drawn up by the Council of the European Union on 26 May 1997,[67] the ongoing work of the Council of Europe to elaborate a criminal law convention against corruption, the programmes of the Council of Europe targeting that form of criminality and recommendation 32 of the recommendations elaborated and endorsed by the Senior Experts Group on Transnational Organized Crime of the Political Group of Eight, which met at Lyon, France, from 27 to 29 June 1996, which are contained in annex I to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/22 of 21 July 1997,

Convinced that updating the manual on practical measures against corruption by incorporating into the manual a section describing recent developments will contribute to increased efficiency in combating that form of criminality,

Determined to ensure that United Nations materials to assist States in their efforts to combat corruption remain as useful and as up to date as possible,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his efforts to update the manual prepared by the Secretariat on practical measures against corruption,[61] to include in the text a section describing recent developments in combating corruption, in particular the practical impact of recent multilateral initiatives in this area, such as the above-described activities of the United Nations, the Organization of American States, the

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[59] General Assembly resolution 51/191, annex.

[60] E/CN.15/1998/3.

[61] *International Review of Criminal Policy*, Nos. 41 and 42 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.IV.4).

[62] General Assembly resolution 51/59, annex.

[63] See E/1996/99.

[64] See *Corruption and Integrity Improvement Initiatives in Developing Countries* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.III.B.18).

[65] See *Official Journal of the European Communities*, No. C 316, 27 November 1995.

[66] Ibid., Nos. C 313, 23 October 1996, and C 221, 19 July 1997.

[67] Ibid., No. C 195, 25 June 1997.

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the European Union, the Council of Europe and the Senior Experts Group on Transnational Organized Crime of the Political Group of Eight;

2. *Decides* to convene an open-ended meeting of governmental experts, using extrabudgetary resources offered by the Government of France for that purpose, to explore means of ensuring that the initiatives described in paragraph 1 above are effective and that an appropriate international strategy against corruption, including the proceeds thereof, is formulated in consultation with other intergovernmental organizations active in this area;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the work of the governmental experts, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its ninth session.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/17. Regulation of explosives for the purpose of crime prevention and public health and safety

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 9 of 7 May 1995 adopted by the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Cairo from 29 April to 8 May 1995,[68]

Recalling also section IV.A of its resolution 1995/27 of 24 July 1995 and its resolutions 1996/28 of 24 July 1996 and 1997/28 of 21 July 1997,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 52/38 J of 9 December 1997, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to initiate a study on the problems of ammunition and explosives in all their aspects, in cooperation with appropriate international and regional organizations where necessary,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 51/60 of 12 December 1996 and the United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security annexed to that resolution,

Bearing in mind also Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 9 (XXXVI) of 7 April 1993,[69] on the relationship between the illicit traffic in arms and explosives and illicit drug trafficking, in which the Commission recommended that States should consider establishing or improving appropriate controls on transfers of explosives, munitions and armaments,

Taking note with appreciation of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials, adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States at its twenty-fourth special session, held in Washington, D.C., on 13 and 14 November 1997,[70]

Deeply concerned that effective action against manifestations of transnational organized crime is hampered by the easy access of criminals and organized criminal groups to firearms, munitions, explosives and their components and parts,

Concerned that the rapid globalization of crime will have a negative effect on the continued capacity of Governments to assess and to counteract effectively threats to public security and will weaken international efforts aimed at enhancing cooperation among police, intelligence, customs and border-control agencies,

Noting the interest shown by Member States in receiving United Nations technical assistance in the area of prevention and control of illicit trafficking in and use of firearms, explosives and their components and parts,

Recognizing that, with the increasing dimensions and scale of international transport and the growing sophistication of transnational illicit trafficking in explosives, States that have not already done so may consider reviewing their legislation and administrative regulations concerning explosives and their components and parts to make those instruments more effective in combating that crime,

Determined, therefore, to initiate measures to promote international cooperation for the prevention of the criminal misuse of and illicit trafficking in explosives and their components and parts,

1. *Decides*, for purposes of crime prevention and public safety, that a study should be initiated on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives by criminals and on the abuse and misuse of explosives for criminal purposes;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, as early as possible, in cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations where necessary, an action plan for collecting, reviewing and exchanging statistics, other information and policy proposals that may deal with, *inter alia*, the following issues:

(*a*) Criminal incidents in which explosive substances were involved, including the number of such incidents, the number of victims involved, the nature and extent of harm caused, the extent of damage to property and the type of explosives used;

(*b*) Diversion of explosives for criminal use;

(*c*) Status of national legislation and regulations on explosives in individual countries;

(*d*) Relevant initiatives for the regulation of explosives at the international and regional levels;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to examine the possibility of convening a meeting of a group of experts to consider the question of the preparation of the action plan;[71]

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[68] See A/CONF.169/16/Rev.1, chap. I.

[69] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 9* (E/1993/29/Rev.1), chap. XI.

[70] See A/53/78, annex.

[71] For this purpose, the group of experts may consider that the word "explosive" would mean any substance or article that is made, manufactured or used to produce an explosion, detonation or propulsive or pyrotechnic effect.

4. *Invites* the International Criminal Police Organization to provide the Secretary-General with its views, suggestions and expertise regarding the development and implementation of the action plan with a view to making it an effective instrument for combating the criminal misuse of and illicit trafficking in explosives.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/18. Measures to regulate firearms for the purpose of combating illicit trafficking in firearms

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 9 of 7 May 1995, on firearms regulation for purposes of crime prevention and public safety, adopted by the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Cairo from 29 April to 8 May 1995,[68]

Recalling also section IV.A of its resolution 1995/27 of 24 July 1995 and its resolutions 1996/28 of 24 July 1996 and 1997/28 of 21 July 1997,

Bearing in mind that freedom from the fear of crime is fundamental to international cooperation and to the sustainable development of States and that international illicit trafficking in and criminal misuse of firearms have a harmful effect on the security of each State and endanger the well-being of peoples and their social and economic development,

Aware of the need for improved cooperation and exchange of data and other information for law enforcement purposes as well as for cooperative action to combat illicit trafficking in firearms,

Mindful that the suppression and prevention of international illicit trafficking in firearms can best be accomplished by the adoption of effective methods of identifying and tracing firearms and by the establishment of an import and export and in-transit licensing or similar authorization regime for the international transfer of firearms,

Aware of the importance of bilateral and multilateral instruments and arrangements in the furtherance of international cooperation, including guidelines and model regulations,

Taking note with appreciation of the work of regional organizations such as the Organization of American States, which adopted the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials at its twenty-fourth special session, held in Washington, D.C., on 13 and 14 November 1997,[70] the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States, which adopted the Model Regulations for the Control of the International Movement of Firearms, Their Parts and Components, and Ammunition at its twenty-second regular session, held at Lima from to 4 to 6 November 1997,[72] and the Council of the European Communities, which adopted the directive on the control of the acquisition and possession of weapons on 18 June 1991,[73]

Taking note of the relevant recommendations contained in the report of the Panel of Governmental Experts on Small Arms, in particular those related to achieving effective control of firearms in the peace-building process in order to prevent their entry into the illicit market,[74]

Taking note also of the results of the *United Nations International Study on Firearm Regulation*,[75]

Recognizing that States will benefit from sharing technical expertise and training that will enhance the capability of law enforcement and criminal justice officials to develop crime prevention policies and solutions to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in and criminal misuse of firearms,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/85 of 12 December 1997,

1. *Welcomes* the results of the *United Nations International Study on Firearm Regulation*,[75] and expresses its appreciation to the Member States that participated in that initiative;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Australia, Canada and Japan, to intergovernmental organizations and to institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network for contributing financially or in kind to the development and implementation of the *Study*;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Slovenia for acting as host to the regional workshop on firearm regulation in Europe, held at Ljubljana from 22 to 26 September 1997, to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for acting as host to the regional workshop on firearm regulation in Africa, held at Arusha from 3 to 7 November 1997, to the Government of Brazil for acting as host to the regional workshop on firearm regulation in the Americas, held at São Paulo from 8 to 12 December 1997, and to the Government of India for acting as host to the regional workshop on firearm regulation in Asia, held at New Delhi from 27 to 31 January 1998;

4. *Recommends* that States, in the light of the above-mentioned considerations, work towards the elaboration of an international instrument to combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition within the context of a United Nations convention against transnational organized crime;

5. *Invites* States, when discussing the elaboration of the international instrument referred to in paragraph 4 above, to take into account, as appropriate, the views of interested non-governmental organizations and other interested parties;

6. *Recommends* that States, in discussing the elaboration of the international instrument, take into account,

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[72] OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.22–CICAD/doc.905/97.

[73] Directive 91/477/EEC; see *Official Journal of the European Communities*, No. L 256, 13 September 1991.

[74] A/52/298, annex, sect. V.

[75] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.IV.2.

where relevant and appropriate, the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials,[75] as well as other existing international instruments and ongoing initiatives;

7. *Decides* that the ad hoc committee on the elaboration of a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime, to be established by the General Assembly, should hold discussions on the elaboration of an international instrument to combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, including, *inter alia*, effective methods of identifying and tracing firearms, as well as on the establishment or maintenance of an import and export and in-transit licensing or similar authorization regime for the international commercial transfer of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition to prevent their diversion for criminal misuse;

8. *Invites* the International Criminal Police Organization and other intergovernmental organizations to provide the Secretary-General with views and proposals regarding their possible contributions towards the development and implementation of technical cooperation to strengthen the ability of law enforcement officials to combat illicit trafficking in and criminal misuse of firearms, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its ninth session.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/19. Action against illegal trafficking in migrants, including by sea

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants are normally carried out by organizations as part of their transnational criminal operations and ordinarily take place under inhuman conditions which result in a great number of accidents and casualties,

Stressing the need to combat all criminal practices connected with illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, having due regard to universally recognized human rights,

Stressing also that it is important that the States concerned establish bilateral, regional and multilateral coordinating mechanisms to fight activities related to illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 51/62 of 12 December 1996, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to consider giving attention to the question of the smuggling of aliens,

Recalling also its resolutions 1994/14 of 25 July 1994 and 1995/10 of 24 July 1995,

Taking note of the report of the meeting of the inter-sessional open-ended intergovernmental group of experts on the elaboration of a preliminary draft of a possible comprehensive international convention against organized transnational crime of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held at Warsaw from 2 to 6 February 1998,[76] and recalling the text of the draft United Nations framework convention against organized crime, submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session by the Government of Poland,[76]

Taking note also of the existing proposals for a convention and a protocol on the subject of illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea, submitted to it by the Governments of Austria and Italy,

Taking note further of the proposal considered by the group of experts that the draft of an international convention against organized transnational crime could consist of a main convention and additional protocols covering specific offences,[77]

Stressing the importance for any legal instruments against illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea, of being consistent legally and substantively with the draft of an international convention against transnational organized crime,

Emphasizing that women and children are particularly vulnerable to becoming victims of the crime of illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of elaborating an efficient legal instrument combating all aspects of transnational organized crime, for example, illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea, having due regard to universally recognized human rights;

2. *Decides* that the ad hoc committee on the elaboration of a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime, to be established by the General Assembly, should hold discussions on the elaboration of an international instrument against illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea, taking into account the existing proposals for legal instruments against illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea.[78]

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/20. Action to combat international trafficking in women and children

The Economic and Social Council,

Gravely concerned by the significant and continuing increase in the activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from international trafficking in women and children,

Declaring that the attention and resources of law enforcement authorities, in particular in the countries of destination for the women and children being trafficked, must be directed towards preventing and punishing the activities of all those involved in organizing and facilitating such international trafficking, including criminal groups, individual traffickers, employers and consumers, who often force women and children into forms of debt bondage, servitude or sexual exploitation, involving criminal activities, in order to pay for their passage,

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[76] A/C.3/51/7, annex; the text of the framework convention is reproduced in annex III to resolution 1997/22 of 21 July 1997.

[77] E/CN.15/1998/5, para. 13.

[78] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/1998/30 and Corr.1), annex V.

Recognizing that organized international criminal groups are becoming increasingly dangerous and active in international trafficking in women and children, without regard to dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of domestic laws and international standards,

Taking note of the report of the meeting of the intersessional open-ended intergovernmental group of experts on the elaboration of a preliminary draft of a possible comprehensive international convention against organized transnational crime, held at Warsaw from 2 to 6 February 1998,[56] and recalling the text of the draft United Nations framework convention against organized crime, submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session by the Government of Poland,[57]

Recalling its resolution 1996/26 of 24 July 1996, on measures to prevent illicit international trafficking in children and to establish penalties appropriate to such offences,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 52/86 of 12 December 1997, on crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women,

Convinced of the need for all States to protect fully the universally recognized human rights of women and children, regardless of their legal status, and to provide humane treatment, in particular with regard to assistance, and protection,

Recognizing that international trafficking in women and children has high social and economic costs, often contributing to official corruption and burdening law enforcement agencies in all States where women and children subjected to such trafficking depart, transit or are found,

Reaffirming respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States, including their right to control immigration flows,

Concerned that trafficking in women and children undermines public confidence in laws, policies and procedures relating to immigration and to ensuring the protection of genuine refugees,

Commending those States that have enacted effective domestic legislation permitting seizure and forfeiture of property, both real and personal, that is knowingly used in organized criminal activities that involve trafficking in women and children, as well as all property used in or derived from such trafficking,

Encouraging Member States that have not yet done so to enact domestic criminal legislation to combat international trafficking in women and children,

Concerned that, in the absence of a universal instrument on these matters, women and children will not be sufficiently protected against this type of crime, which is increasingly transcending national borders,

Declaring that effective action to combat international trafficking in women and children requires a comprehensive approach in the countries of origin, transit and destination that includes preventive measures to educate potential victims and their families as well as to frustrate traffickers, enforcement measures against traffickers and all those who assist them and protective measures to aid victims of trafficking, including protection for those victims who would assist in the prosecution of the traffickers,

1. *Decides* that the ad hoc committee on the elaboration of a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime, to be established by the General Assembly, should hold discussions on the elaboration, as appropriate, of an international instrument addressing trafficking in women and children;

2. *Stresses* the relevance of the following issues in connection with trafficking in women and children:

(*a*) The need for States to take effective and expeditious measures, in particular the enactment or amendment, if necessary, of domestic legislation, to provide for appropriate penalties, such as substantial imprisonment, fines and forfeiture, in order to combat all aspects of organized criminal activities related to trafficking at the international level in women and children;

(*b*) The importance for States of sharing information, coordinating law enforcement activities and otherwise cooperating, if their laws permit, in order to locate and arrest those who organize trafficking in women and children, as well as those who exploit those trafficked;

(*c*) The need for States to provide specialized training for law enforcement, immigration and other officers concerned, as well as to initiate public information campaigns to make both potential victims and the general public aware of the terrible exploitation and possible loss of life inherent in trafficking in women and children;

(*d*) The need for countries of origin, transit and destination to observe fully international obligations and national laws, including those concerning the humane treatment and strict observance of all human rights of women and children, regardless of whether they were trafficked voluntarily or involuntarily;

(*e*) The goal of ensuring that international efforts to prevent international trafficking in women and children do not inhibit immigration or freedom of travel consistent with laws or undercut the protection provided to refugees by international law;

(*f*) The need for strengthened international cooperation and technical assistance for the benefit of developing countries.

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1998/21. United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme,

Reaffirming the importance of United Nations standards, norms and guidelines in crime prevention and criminal justice and the need to maintain a balance between the current main priority issue of combating transnational organized crime and the other priority issues of the Programme,

I

USE AND APPLICATION OF UNITED NATIONS STANDARDS AND NORMS IN CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Recalling its resolution 1993/34 of 27 July 1993, in section III of which it requested the Secretary-General to commence without delay a process of information-gathering to be undertaken by means of surveys,

Recalling also its resolution 1996/16 of 23 July 1996, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to promote the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

1. *Recommends* that the relevant national authorities promote the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the information-gathering and to submit to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its ninth session a report on the use and application of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (The Tokyo Rules),[79] the Guidelines on the Role of Prosecutors[80] and the Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers,[81] and to prepare updated reports where at least thirty additional States have replied in respect of a standard or norm on which a report has already been submitted;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare survey instruments on the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions,[59] the United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security[82] and the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials;[62]

4. *Invites* States to provide resources to the Secretariat with a view to making the information provided on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice accessible through the United Nations Crime and Justice Information Network via the World Wide Web;

5. *Invites* States and research institutes to make use of the information gathered regarding the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his budget proposals on the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme the resources appropriate for the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat, in order to enable the Centre to fulfil its mandates;

II

ADMINISTRATION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

Recalling its resolution 1997/30 of 21 July 1997, on the administration of juvenile justice, and the Guidelines for Action on Children in the Criminal Justice System, annexed to that resolution,

Welcoming the fact that the Committee on the Rights of the Child places considerable emphasis on juvenile justice during the review of State party reports, and noting that its concluding observations often include recommendations to seek technical assistance in juvenile justice from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat and the United Nations Children's Fund, in accordance with article 45 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[26]

Emphasizing the important preventive character of the effective use and application of existing United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice,

Concerned about the situation of children in conflict with the law and their treatment by the criminal justice system in a number of States,

Concerned also about the fact that, in the view of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, juvenile justice reform is needed in almost all States whose country reports have been considered,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,[83] in which the Secretary-General highlighted difficulties and deficiencies in the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice by Member States;

2. *Welcomes* the fact that the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat has enhanced its cooperation with other United Nations entities and with other partners involved in assisting Member States in setting up separate juvenile justice systems or in improving existing juvenile justice systems by adapting them to the United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice;

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[79] General Assembly resolution 45/110, annex.

[80] *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. C.26, annex.

[81] Ibid., chap. I, sect. B.3, annex.

[82] General Assembly resolution 51/60, annex.

[83] E/CN.15/1998/8 and Add.1.

3. *Also welcomes* the increased number of technical assistance projects in the field of juvenile justice, which reflects an increased awareness on the part of Member States of the importance of juvenile justice reform in establishing and maintaining stable societies and the rule of law;

4. *Further welcomes* the establishment of a coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice to coordinate activities in the field of juvenile justice, subject to the conditions set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/30, and calls on the partners involved to increase their cooperation, share information and pool their capacities and interests in order to increase the effectiveness of programme implementation;

5. *Urges* States to include, where necessary, provisions for juvenile justice in their national development plans, calls upon States to include the administration of juvenile justice in their funding policies for development cooperation, and invites them to respond favourably to requests from other States that are seeking assistance from the Centre for International Crime Prevention, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights or the United Nations Children's Fund in developing and improving juvenile justice systems;

6. *Urges* States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[26] to intensify their efforts to ensure full implementation of their obligations under the Convention and to pursue the goals set forth in the Convention with regard to the treatment of children in the administration of juvenile justice, and urges States to use and apply the United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice and related instruments;

7. *Reaffirms* that juvenile justice remains a high priority in the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention, in particular as juveniles, both those in conflict with the law and those in difficult circumstances who may be potential future criminals, are easy prey for criminal organizations closely linked with activities of transnational organized crime;

8. *Requests* the Centre to continue to provide technical assistance in the field of juvenile justice, and calls on Member States to provide the necessary resources;

9. *Underlines* the need for mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes relating to children in the criminal justice system;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the administration of juvenile justice, as well as on the activities of the coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighth session;

III

VICTIMS OF CRIME AND ABUSE OF POWER

Recognizing the importance of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985 and annexed thereto, and is considered a landmark in the treatment of victims,

Deeply concerned about the continuing victimization by crime, especially organized crime, violence, terrorism and abuses of power, of vulnerable groups and individuals in particular, which exacts a vast human cost and impairs the quality of life in many parts of the world,

Recalling the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power in the International Setting, held at Vienna from 18 to 22 December 1995,[84] as well as the expert group meetings on the same subject held at Tulsa, United States of America, from 10 to 12 August 1996, at The Hague, the Netherlands, on 6 and 7 March 1997[85] and in Washington, D.C., on 26 and 27 February 1998,[86] which highlighted the needs of victims of crime and abuse of power and the necessity of concerted action to protect and assist such victims,

Underlining the fact that the subject of victims of crime and abuse of power will be one of the four main topics of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held at Vienna in April 2000,

1. *Welcomes* the Guide for Policy Makers on the Implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power[87] and the Handbook on Justice for Victims on the use and application of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power;[88]

2. *Notes* the consideration that the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court has given to provisions related to victims, in particular with regard to the proposed creation of a victims and witnesses unit;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General to translate the Guide and the Handbook into all official languages of the United Nations and to disseminate them widely, using also electronic means of dissemination;

4. *Recommends* the continued development of a database on practical national experiences, on relevant case law and legislation and on the use and application of the Declaration, taking into account different systems and traditions, including indigenous and customary justice practices, and welcomes the initiative of the Government of the Netherlands to establish such a database and to maintain it for an initial duration of three years;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To seek the views of Member States regarding the desirability and feasibility of establishing an international fund for victims of crime and abuse of power in order to support, *inter alia*, the following:

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[84] E/CN.15/1996/16/Add.5.

[85] E/CN.15/1997/CRP.8.

[86] E/CN.15/1998/CRP.8.

[87] E/CN.15/1998/CRP.4.

[88] E/CN.15/1998/CRP.4/Add.1.

(i) Technical assistance to develop and/or strengthen victim support services and organizations;

(ii) Specific projects and activities;

(iii) Awareness campaigns on victim rights and crime prevention;

(iv) Eligible victim claims resulting from international and transnational crime, where national avenues of recourse and/or redress are unavailable or insufficient;

(*b*) To convene a working group on this matter, consisting of Member States that express an interest in such a fund, and welcomes the offer of the Government of the Netherlands to host the working group;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General, Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in victim assistance and redress, using a multi-partner approach where appropriate, to incorporate victim assistance modules in technical cooperation projects and to assist Member States, on request, in applying the Guide and the Handbook, through training courses, seminars, study tours, fellowships and advisory services, in order to help to resolve problems in the implementation of the Declaration, and welcomes the initiative of the Government of the United States of America to establish a training programme to that end;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of interested States and relevant organizations, to make use of the database referred to in paragraph 4 above in order to provide guidelines for drafting appropriate laws on victims and, at the request of Member States, to assist in the elaboration of new legislation;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations:

(*a*) To promote, where necessary, demonstration or pilot projects for the establishment and the further development of victim services, and other operational activities;

(*b*) To develop measures, where necessary, for special victim groups, such as victims of terrorism, victims and witnesses of organized crime, victims of hate or bias crimes, female and child victims of violence and sexual abuse and disabled victims;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the establishment of a coordination panel or other mechanism to ensure concerted action, with an appropriate division of responsibilities, among United Nations entities and other entities concerned in order to promote the implementation of the Declaration;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the plan of action for the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, annexed to the present resolution, with a view to reporting on it to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighth session;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission at its eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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ANNEX

Plan of action for the implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power

I

CAPACITY-BUILDING

1. The Secretary-General,[89] Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in victim assistance and redress are requested[90] further to incorporate victim assistance modules in technical cooperation projects and to assist interested Member States in applying the Guide for Policy Makers on the Implementation of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power[87] and the Handbook on Justice for Victims on the use and application of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power,[88] through training courses, seminars, study tours, fellowships and advisory services, in order to help to resolve problems in the implementation of the Declaration.

2. The Secretary-General is requested to develop, in collaboration with relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, criteria for the selection of technical cooperation projects for the establishment or the further development of victim services.

3. Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network are invited to assist the Secretary-General in updating, with an appropriate interval, the Guide and the Handbook, giving special attention to practical national experiences, legislative information and case law concerning special victim groups, such as victims and witnesses of organized crime, terrorism, economic and environmental crime or bias or hate crimes and victims of violence against women and children.

4. The Secretary-General, together with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, is requested to assist interested Member States in the development of reparative and restorative policies for victims of violations of human rights and humanitarian law, as part of national reconstruction and reconciliation, and in the promotion of justice and the rule of law.

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[89] In the present plan of action, references to the Secretary-General are understood as signifying primarily the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network.

[90] When the Secretary-General is requested to carry out activities, they should be performed within existing resources or through extrabudgetary funding.

II

INFORMATION-GATHERING, INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND RESEARCH

5. The Secretary-General, in cooperation with interested Member States and non-governmental organizations, is requested to support the international database on practical national and regional experiences in providing technical assistance in this field and on bibliographic and legislative information, including case law relevant to this field.

6. Member States and non-governmental organizations are invited to provide information for the database on projects, new programmes, case law and legislation and other relevant guidelines that have been found to be effective and that could serve as models for such developments elsewhere and to help in identifying experts who could assist Member States, upon request, in implementing such projects, programmes and legislation.

7. Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are invited to give consideration to the further development and use of methods of gathering data on victimization, such as standardized victimization surveys, including their extension to cover groups of victims such as victims and witnesses of organized crime, terrorism, economic and environmental crime or bias or hate crimes and victims of violence against women, children and migrants.

8. Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are invited to promote the evaluation of the efficacy of different forms of providing assistance to victims, the evaluation of the extent to which the criminal justice process takes into consideration the legitimate needs and concerns of victims and the evaluation of different forms of ensuring compensation and restitution to victims.

III

PREVENTION OF VICTIMIZATION

9. The Secretary-General, together with cooperating institutes and organizations, is invited to study ways in which to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in responding to cases of large-scale victimization, terrorism and man-made catastrophes that are the result of criminal negligence, ensuring that the necessary emergency assistance is provided, using, where necessary, interdisciplinary and international crisis response teams to help in dealing with the situation and in responding to the needs and rights of the victims.

10. Member States are encouraged to consider the introduction, where necessary, and the strengthening of the work of ombudsmen and civilian review bodies or other complaint mechanisms and means of preventing and investigating possible abuse of power.

11. Member States and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to conduct public information and education campaigns designed to prevent and curtail victimization and re-victimization. Such campaigns should include both general campaigns directed at broad sectors of the population and special campaigns targeting selected groups known to be at high risk of such victimization and re-victimization.

12. Member States, in close cooperation with representatives of the mass media, are encouraged to elaborate and implement effectively guidelines for the media aimed at protecting victims and curtailing re-victimization.

IV

ACTION AT THE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

13. The Secretary-General, in cooperation with Member States and the regional commissions, is requested to explore the possibility of developing regional mechanisms for monitoring victimization and providing recourse and/or redress for victims.

14. The Secretary-General, in cooperation with the international professional and academic community, is requested to help Member States in identifying lacunae in international criminal law and humanitarian and human rights law concerning the protection and rights of victims and witnesses, with a view to addressing those lacunae.

V

COORDINATION OF RELEVANT INITIATIVES

15. The Secretary-General is requested to assist Member States in strengthening coordination arrangements and procedures to foster joint planning and implementation of victim-related activities.

16. The Secretary-General is requested to ensure concerted action, with an appropriate division of responsibilities, among United Nations entities and other entities concerned with promoting the implementation of the Declaration.

17. The Secretary-General is requested to assist Member States, upon request, in the elaboration of joint strategies and the mobilization of support for providing assistance to victims, including wider citizen participation and the promotion of the principles of restorative justice.

1998/22. Status of foreign citizens in criminal proceedings

The Economic and Social Council,

Guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted and proclaimed by the General Assembly by its resolution 217 A (III) of 10 December 1948,

Bearing in mind the relevant international legal instruments in the field of human rights,

Bearing in mind also the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, adopted by the First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Geneva from 22 August to 3 September 1955,[91] and approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 663 C (XXIV) of 31 July 1957, and the procedures for the effective implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, approved by the Council in its resolution 1984/47 of 25 May 1984 and set out in the annex thereto,

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[91] United Nations publication, Sales No. 1956.IV.4, annex I, sect. A.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 49/159 of 23 December 1994, in which the Assembly approved the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime adopted by the World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime, held at Naples, Italy, from 21 to 23 November 1994,[54]

Conscious of the need to respect human dignity and the recognized rights of persons undergoing criminal proceedings as set forth in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[24]

Urges Member States that have not yet done so to consider adopting the following measures:

(*a*) Carefully examine whether foreign citizens under criminal prosecution are guaranteed universally recognized rights with regard to criminal prosecution at all stages of proceedings;

(*b*) Ensure that individuals are not subjected to more severe custodial penalties or inferior prison conditions in a State solely because they are not nationals of that State;

(*c*) Undertake the necessary arrangements to ensure that any foreign citizen subject to criminal proceedings whose native language is not that of the State conducting the proceedings against him or her and who, for that reason, is unable to understand the nature of such proceedings has access throughout his or her trial to the services of a suitable interpreter in his or her native language, to the extent possible;

(*d*) Whenever permitted by its internal law or practice, make available to foreign citizens as well as to nationals, provided that they fulfil the relevant legal requirements, alternative penal sentences or administrative penalties provided for under the legislation of the State conducting proceedings;

(*e*) Intensify efforts to implement applicable international instruments, such as the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[92] concerning, *inter alia*, notification to consular authorities of the detention of their citizens.

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1998/23. International cooperation aimed at the reduction of prison overcrowding and the promotion of alternative sentencing

The Economic and Social Council,

Deeply concerned by the serious problem confronting many Member States as a result of prison overcrowding,

Convinced that conditions in overcrowded prisons may affect the human rights of prisoners,

Mindful of the fact that the physical and social conditions associated with prison overcrowding may result in outbreaks of violence in prisons, a development that could pose a grave threat to law and order,

Recalling the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (The Tokyo Rules),[79] and convinced of the necessity of their further implementation,

Recalling also the resolutions on the conditions of prisoners adopted by United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in particular resolution 16 on reduction of the prison population, alternatives to imprisonment and social integration of offenders and resolution 17 on the human rights of prisoners, both adopted on 6 September 1985 by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[93]

Noting that the International Conference on Community Service Orders in Africa, held at Kadoma, Zimbabwe, from 24 to 28 November 1997, adopted the Kadoma Declaration on Community Service, contained in annex I to the present resolution,

Taking note of the recommendations of the seminar entitled "Criminal justice: the challenge of prison overcrowding", held jointly by the Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and the European Commission at San José, Costa Rica, from 3 to 7 February 1997, contained in annex II to the present resolution,

Mindful that many Member States lack the necessary resources to resolve the problem of prison overcrowding, and conscious that the inadequate facilities and cell accommodations in prisons are a product of the difficult socio-economic conditions prevailing in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition,

Noting that, in an attempt to reduce prison overcrowding, some Member States have been trying to find a solution by granting amnesties or pardons or by building new prisons,

Recognizing the need for Member States to establish economic and technical cooperation for the purpose of improving prison conditions and allocating resources to that end,

Considering that prison overcrowding causes a variety of problems, including difficulties for overworked staff,

Taking into account the limited effectiveness of imprisonment, especially for prisoners serving short sentences, and the cost of imprisonment to society as a whole,

Considering the growing interest in many Member States in measures to replace custodial sentences, especially taking into account the principles of human rights,

Considering also that community service and other non-custodial measures are innovative alternatives to imprisonment and that there have been promising developments in this area,

Considering further that compensation for damage done is an important element of non-custodial sentences,

Considering that legislation can be introduced to ensure that community service and other non-custodial measures will be imposed as alternatives to imprisonment,

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[92] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

[93] See *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August–6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. E.

1. *Urges* Member States, if they have not yet done so, to consider introducing appropriate alternatives to imprisonment in their criminal justice systems;[94]

2. *Recommends* to Member States that have not yet done so to consider adopting effective measures to reduce pre-trial detention;

3. *Recommends* to Member States, subject to national law, to consider the following:

(*a*) Dealing with petty offences according to customary practice, where such practice exists, provided that doing so meets human rights requirements and that those involved so agree;

(*b*) If possible, using amicable means of settlement to deal with petty offences and resolving those offences among the parties, for example, by using mediation, acceptance of civil reparation or agreement to compensation through part of the income of the offender or through the work done by the offender to recompense the victim;

(*c*) If possible, preferring community service and other non-custodial measures to imprisonment;

(*d*) Conducting a study on the feasibility of adapting successful models of non-custodial measures and applying them in States where they are not yet being applied;

(*e*) Educating the public about the objectives of the above-mentioned alternatives to imprisonment and about how those alternatives work;

4. *Invites* international and regional financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to incorporate in their technical assistance programmes measures to reduce prison overcrowding, including the establishment of adequate infrastructure and the development of alternatives to imprisonment in criminal justice systems;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice no later than at its tenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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ANNEX I

Kadoma Declaration on Community Service

Recalling the Kampala Declaration on Prison Conditions in Africa, adopted at the International Seminar on Prison Conditions in Africa, held at Kampala from 19 to 21 September 1996, which takes into account the limited effectiveness of imprisonment, especially for those serving short sentences, and the cost of imprisonment to the whole of society,

Noting the growing interest in many countries in measures that replace custodial sentences and the promising developments across the world in this regard,

Noting with appreciation that the importance of the Kampala Declaration was recognized by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1997/36 of 21 July 1997 on international cooperation for the improvement of prison conditions, to which the Declaration was annexed,

Bearing in mind the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (The Tokyo Rules)[94] and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (The Beijing Rules),[95]

Considering that, in many countries in Africa, the level of prison overcrowding is inhuman,

Recalling that the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights[96] reaffirms the dignity inherent in a human being and the prohibition of degrading punishment and treatment,

Welcoming the success of the Zimbabwe community service scheme and its adoption by the Government of Zimbabwe following a three-year trial period,

Noting with appreciation that other African countries, including French-speaking and Portuguese-speaking countries, are interested in introducing community service as a penal sanction in their criminal justice systems,

The participants at the International Conference on Community Service Orders in Africa, held at Kadoma, Zimbabwe, from 24 to 28 November 1997, make the following Declaration:

1. The use of prison should be strictly limited to being a measure of last resort. Prisons represent a waste of scarce resources and human potential. The majority of prisoners who occupy them pose no actual threat to society.

2. The overcrowding in our prisons requires positive action through, *inter alia*, the introduction of community service.

3. Community service is in conformity with African traditions of dealing with offenders and with healing the damage caused by crime within the community. Furthermore, it is a positive and cost-effective measure to be preferred, whenever possible, to a sentence of imprisonment.

4. Community service should be effectively implemented and supervised and should involve a programme of work in which the offender is required to carry out a number of hours of voluntary work for the benefit of the community in his or her own time.

5. Governments, donors and civil society organizations are invited to support research, pilot schemes and other initiatives in this important area.

6. Countries that already have community service should take into account lessons learned from elsewhere and review their own schemes accordingly.

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[94] See the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (The Tokyo Rules), contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 45/110, and *Human Rights and Pre-trial Detention: Handbook of International Standards relating to Pre-trial Detention*, Professional Training Series, No. 3 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XIV.6).

[95] General Assembly resolution 40/33, annex.

[96] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

7. There should be promotion of community support through sensitization campaigns targeting public opinion and the development of statistical databases to measure the effectiveness of community service.

8. We encourage those countries that have not yet done so to develop non-custodial sentencing alternatives and to this end we commit ourselves to cooperating with and coordinating our action through other national committees on community service and/or interested groups, in order better to promote the scheme.

9. We adopt the Plan of Action attached hereto.

APPENDIX

Plan of action for the Kadoma Declaration on Community Service

Further to the Kadoma Declaration on Community Service, adopted by the participants at the International Conference on Community Service Orders in Africa, held at Kadoma, Zimbabwe, from 24 to 28 November 1997, the participants adopt the following Plan of Action:

1. *Network*

Establish a network of national committees on community service and other interested groups to provide mutual support and encouragement through:

- The provision of resource persons to assist at seminars in the subregion and elsewhere;
- The sharing of documentation (legislation, guidelines, administrative forms) and ideas;
- Coordination and support of new projects;
- Cooperation and assistance in administering the scheme;
- Assistance in staff training;
- Exchange visits.

2. *Community service directory*

Compile a community service directory. To this end, a home page will be established on the Internet informing interested persons of developments in this area and a book will be produced that includes:

- The contact points and addresses of all national committees on community service and those contacts engaged in community service schemes;
- A list of experts and resource persons;
- Contacts in interested countries;
- Interested groups and organizations around the world;
- Donor and government contacts.

The book will be distributed in different languages, including in French and English.

3. *Newsletter*

Issue a newsletter:

- To be produced by each national committee on community service at regular intervals and circulated to the network;
- To include initiatives undertaken, problems encountered, solutions found, reports on workshops, a calendar of events, requests for support (for example, resource persons), statistics and other information;
- To be disseminated through the Internet or the mail, or both.

4. *Research and data-gathering*

Set up mechanisms for research and data-gathering whereby:

- Research findings and data gathered will be shared through the newsletter or via the Internet;
- Research projects will be identified (for example, on cost-benefit analyses) and funding application supported by the network;
- Joint research projects on the benefits, problems and effectiveness of community service where the scheme is applied will be undertaken regionally and internationally.

ANNEX II

Recommendations of the seminar entitled "Criminal justice: the challenge of prison overcrowding", held at San José, Costa Rica, from 3 to 7 February 1997

1. The Secretary-General should take measures to ensure that assistance is offered to States requesting it, either by drawing on existing resources or by creating a special budget heading, with a view to improving the physical conditions of prisons.

2. The Secretary-General should take measures to ensure that the relevant entities are furnished with the necessary resources to provide training for the administrative and operational personnel of the prisons of Member States requesting such training, with priority being accorded to the most overcrowded prisons.

3. Measures should be taken to ensure that international and regional financial institutions, such as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, adopt initiatives aimed at reducing prison overcrowding, including the provision of assistance for programmes of prison construction and the renovation of infrastructure.

4. The World Health Organization and regional bodies should be requested to incorporate, in their programmes of assistance, initiatives aimed at improving prison hospital facilities and the medical and hospital services offered to prisoners in States requesting such assistance.

5. Member States should urge the Secretary-General to promote and adopt, jointly with requesting Member States, measures to privatize individual prisons in such a way that they provide for security, the well-being and social reintegration of prisoners, profitable industrial use of prison labour and employment opportunities for prisoners after their release.

6. Member States should seek to establish in prisons human rights committees and work panels as alternative conflict-resolution mechanisms.

7. Member States should explore the possibility of adopting strategies to involve private enterprise in prison social rehabilitation programmes by creating enterprises and micro-enterprises to encourage investment in the vocational training of prisoners, employment creation within prisons and the reintegration of former prisoners into the labour force, thereby ensuring full application of the principles of social reintegration and rehabilitation of former prisoners within the productive mainstream of countries.

8. Member States should take measures to ensure the marketing of prison production through promotional and marketing programmes and to set up progressively workshops in prisons.

1998/24. Technical cooperation and advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/90 of 12 December 1997, on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity,

Stressing the direct relevance of crime prevention and criminal justice to sustained development, stability, improved quality of life, democracy and human rights, which is increasingly being recognized by United Nations entities, specialized agencies and other international organizations,

Aware of the continued increase in requests for technical assistance forwarded to the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat by least developed countries, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict,

Recalling the memorandum of understanding concluded in August 1997 between the Centre and the United Nations Office for Project Services to cooperate closely in the execution and implementation of technical assistance projects in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Appreciating the funding provided by certain Member States in 1997 that has permitted the Centre to enhance its capacity to execute an increased number of projects,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 52/12 A of 12 November 1997 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform",

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the technical cooperation activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat,[97] in particular its success in focusing its technical cooperation activities in those subject areas specifically mandated by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Centre for assisting Member States in achieving positive results in the improvement of their criminal justice systems by responding to the increasing requests for technical assistance, by implementing a number of important projects and by formulating new projects that urgently require new funding;

3. *Welcomes* the work done by the informal consultative group on resource mobilization in accordance with resolutions 5/3 of 31 May 1996[98] and 6/1 of 9 May 1997[99] of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

4. *Commends* the increased cooperation between the Centre, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Office for Project Services, and calls upon those entities, together with the World Bank and other international, regional and national funding agencies, to support technical cooperation activities complementary to existing bilateral programmes devoted to crime prevention and criminal justice as a means of guaranteeing effective and sustainable development, utilizing the expertise of the Centre;

5. *Welcomes* the close cooperation between the Centre and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in particular in the areas of action against money-laundering and of drugs and prisons, and calls upon the two entities to continue to undertake joint activities, in particular the elaboration and execution of technical cooperation projects;

6. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that the lack of adequate resources may impede progress in the further operationalization of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and hamper the implementation of those projects that have so far been elaborated in response to urgent requests from countries in need;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that contribute to the activities of the Programme by providing funding and the services of associate experts, consultants and experts for training purposes, advisory missions and the implementation of technical assistance projects, by developing training manuals and other material, by offering fellowship opportunities and by hosting action-oriented workshops and expert group meetings;

8. *Calls upon* potential donors and relevant funding agencies to make significant and regular financial and/or other contributions for the formulation, coordination and implementation of technical assistance projects elaborated within the framework of the Programme and to strengthen the role of the Programme as facilitator of bilateral assistance in that area;

9. *Invites* developing countries and countries with economies in transition to include in their requests for assistance from the United Nations Development Programme, in particular as part of its country programme framework, projects and/or elements on crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to strengthening national institutional capacity, professional expertise and continuing education in that field;

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[97] E/CN.15/1998/9.

[98] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1996, Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (E/1996/30 and Corr.1–3), chap. I, sect. D.

[99] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/1997/30 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the plan for strategic management of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in accordance with Commission resolutions 1/1 of 29 April 1992[100] and 4/3 of 9 June 1995,[101] to enhance further the resources available within the existing overall budgetary framework of the United Nations for the activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, including travel funds for the mobilization of resources and special efforts for fund-raising;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to enter into discussions with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme with a view to having the Centre for International Crime Prevention recognized as an executing agency;

12. *Calls upon* the Executive Director of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to consider enhancing the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme by establishing a presence at the country or subregional level, jointly with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme where appropriate.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/25. Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1979/8 of 9 May 1979, 1980/20 of 30 April 1980, 1981/8 of 6 May 1981, 1982/12 of 30 April 1982, 1983/3 of 24 May 1983, 1984/21 of 24 May 1984, 1985/16 of 28 May 1985, 1986/9 of 21 May 1986, 1987/31 of 26 May 1987, 1988/10 of 25 May 1988, 1989/15 of 22 May 1989, 1990/31 of 24 May 1990, 1991/43 of 21 June 1991, 1992/30 of 30 July 1992, 1993/37 of 27 July 1993, 1994/5 of 20 July 1994, 1995/19 of 24 July 1995, 1996/19 of 23 July 1996 and 1997/38 of 21 July 1997,

Emphasizing that the need to balance the global licit supply of opiates against the legitimate demand for opiates for medical and scientific purposes is central to the international strategy and policy of drug abuse control,

Noting the fundamental need for international cooperation and solidarity with the traditional supplier countries in drug abuse control in general and in the universal application of the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[102] in particular,

Having considered the *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1997*,[103] in which the Board pointed out that in 1996 a balance between consumption and production of opiate raw materials had been achieved, and noting that efforts were made by the two traditional supplier countries, India and Turkey, to maintain, together with other producing countries, the balance between supply and demand,

Noting the importance of opiates in pain relief therapy as advocated by the World Health Organization,

1. *Urges* all Governments to continue to contribute to the maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiates for medical and scientific needs, the achievement of which would be facilitated by maintaining, insofar as their constitutional and legal systems permit, support to the traditional supplier countries, and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production and manufacture for export;

2. *Urges* Governments of all producing countries to adhere strictly to the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[102] and to take effective measures to prevent illicit production or diversion of opiate raw materials to illicit channels;

3. *Urges* consumer countries to assess their needs for opiates realistically and to communicate those needs to the International Narcotics Control Board in order to ensure easy supply;

4. *Commends* the Board for its efforts in monitoring the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions and in particular:

(*a*) In urging the Governments concerned to adjust global production of opiate raw materials to a level corresponding to actual licit needs and to avoid unforeseen imbalances between licit supply of and demand for opiates caused by the sales of products manufactured from seized and confiscated drugs;

(*b*) In arranging informal meetings during sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs with the main States importing and producing opiate raw materials;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments for consideration and implementation.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/26. Advancement of women: implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997, on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[45] and General Assembly resolutions 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 52/100 of 12 December 1997 and 52/195 and 52/203 of 18 December 1997,

Recalling also that Governments have the primary responsibility for implementing the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[2]

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[100] Ibid., *1992, Supplement No. 10* (E/1992/30), chap. I, sect. C.

[101] Ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 10* and addendum (E/1995/30 and Add.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[102] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[103] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.XI.1.

Reaffirming the importance of operational activities for development in assisting the developing countries in implementing the commitments of the Platform for Action,

Reaffirming also that operational activities for development within the United Nations system have a critical and unique role to play in enabling developing countries to take the lead in the management of their own development process and that the funds and programmes constitute important vehicles for advancing international development cooperation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on advancement of women: implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development,[104]

Noting that coordinated and integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences has become a priority of the United Nations system and that all activities related to global conference follow-up should fully integrate a gender perspective,

Emphasizing the importance of data disaggregated on the basis of sex and age for the evaluation of gender mainstreaming,

Expressing serious concern at the persistent insufficiency of resources for operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in particular the decline in contributions to core resources,

Stressing that national plans and priorities constitute the only viable frame of reference for national programming of operational activities for development within the United Nations system and that programmes should be based on such development plans and priorities and thus should be country-driven,

Stressing also in that context the need to take into account the outcomes and commitments of relevant United Nations conferences, as well as the individual mandates and complementarities of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations development system, bearing in mind the need to avoid duplication,

1. *Welcomes* the activities within the United Nations system that are aimed at implementing the Beijing Declaration[1] and the Platform for Action[2] of the Fourth World Conference on Women, in particular for mainstreaming gender issues, and recognizes the need to integrate further a gender perspective, in particular into operational activities for development;

2. *Also welcomes* the opportunities that are presented by the reform process in the United Nations better to coordinate and mainstream gender issues as part of a strategic framework, and reaffirms that an active and visible policy of gender mainstreaming should be integrated into the ongoing pilot phase and review of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;[15]

3. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to incorporate fully a gender perspective into the coordinated and integrated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits and to continue to strengthen its capacity to support and implement world conference commitments, in particular the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action;

4. *Calls upon* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, within their poverty eradication activities, to target women and girls living in poverty and to ensure the availability of funding sources for such activities;

5. *Calls upon* Governments to implement specific programmes for the eradication of poverty and illiteracy, ensuring women's equal rights and access to basic social services, such as education and health, as well as productive resources, training, employment, credit, microfinance and the promotion of entrepreneurial activities in order to promote the advancement and empowerment of women in all countries, invites the international community to support national efforts in developing countries in this regard, and invites non-governmental organizations, in this regard, to integrate a gender perspective into their programmes;

6. *Recognizes* the need for the United Nations system to adopt a coordinated and coherent policy for gender mainstreaming, including the establishment and strengthening of the role of gender units and focal points, including guidelines and directives for mainstreaming a gender perspective in policies and programmes for achieving gender equality;

7. *Reiterates* that location, seniority level, resources and participation of gender units, gender advisers and focal points in all policy-making and programming processes are crucial for translating the gender mainstreaming mandate into practical reality;

8. *Reaffirms* that responsibility for translating gender mainstreaming into practice rests at the highest levels;

9. *Urges* all funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to increase their efforts to incorporate fully a gender analysis and perspective into their operational activities, with a view to achieving time-bound measurable goals, and emphasizes that this process should be guided by the need for the United Nations system to extend assistance to developing countries in meeting their commitments under the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action;

10. *Requests* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to assist Governments in integrating data disaggregated by sex and age into their country programmes;

11. *Emphasizes* the role of the resident coordinators, within their mandate, to incorporate fully a gender perspective in the implementation of operational activities for development, in consultation with the host Government, and the need to provide regular gender training for resident coordinators and their staff;

12. *Recognizes* the need for accountability in the operational activities of the United Nations system in the implementation of gender mainstreaming activities, including

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[104] E/1998/54 and Corr.1.

in the report on the triennial policy review and through the preparation of comprehensive reports on the use of resources allocated for gender mainstreaming, in accordance with the relevant decisions of the respective governing bodies;

13. *Requests* the governing bodies of the United Nations funds and programmes to monitor the implementation of gender mainstreaming in their programmes of work, including in the budgeting of their respective organizations;

14. *Also requests* the respective governing bodies to ensure the development of integrated monitoring and evaluation of gender mainstreaming activities to facilitate an early identification of problems and to develop effective responses thereto, and requests the United Nations funds and programmes to evaluate the impact of their gender mainstreaming activities, in cooperation with the national Governments concerned, and to report thereon;

15. *Requests* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, within their mandates and the priorities set by their respective governing bodies, to establish internal funding targets for gender mainstreaming wherever they do not exist, and requests that, where they do exist, more determined efforts be made to reach their own targets and to report regularly to their respective governing bodies thereon;

16. *Encourages* the United Nations development funds and programmes, in mobilizing resources from all available sources, to provide for particular attention to allocating resources to gender mainstreaming activities and capacity-building;

17. *Welcomes* the work that the United Nations Development Fund for Women has undertaken to support inter-agency cooperation in gender mainstreaming, as well as its efforts to assist the advancement and empowerment of women at the country level, *inter alia*, by placing gender advisers and gender specialists, and recommends that States and agencies of the United Nations system consider increasing their contribution to and support for the work of the Fund;

18. *Reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Platform for Action, a reformulation of policies and reallocation of resources may be needed, but that some policy changes may not necessarily have financial implications;

19. *Also reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Platform for Action, adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources to the developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, from all available funding mechanisms, including multilateral, bilateral and private sources for the advancement of women, will also be required;

20. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination in implementing General Assembly resolution 52/100, and, in this regard, requests the funds and programmes to submit proposals for the implementation of paragraphs 12 and 40 of resolution 52/100 to their respective governing bodies;

21. *Requests* all funds, programmes and relevant agencies of the United Nations system to assist Governments, upon their request, in their national efforts to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[4] including the reporting system;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the preparatory committee for the high-level review in the year 2000 of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women[3] and the Platform for Action, to be held as a special session of the General Assembly, to include information on the progress in gender mainstreaming in operational activities and on the implementation of the present resolution.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/27. Reporting of the United Nations funds and programmes to the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and 52/203 of 18 December 1997 and Council resolutions 1994/33 of 28 July 1994 and 1995/51 of 28 July 1995 as regards annual reporting mandates for the operational activities segment of the substantive session of the Council,

Seeking to enhance the ability of the Council to fulfil its role in providing overall coordination and guidance for operational development programmes and funds on a system-wide basis,

Acknowledging the need for enhanced interaction between the Council and the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes,

Welcoming the submission by the executive heads of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund to the Council, on the invitation of their Executive Board, of a consolidated list of issues central to the improved coordination of operational activities,

Welcoming also the oral reports of the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes during the operational activities segment of the substantive session of the Council on, *inter alia*, the resident coordinator system, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework[35] and the United Nations Development Group,

1. *Requests* the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to ensure that the heads of these funds and programmes include in their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, prepared in accordance with Council resolution 1994/33, a thorough analysis of problems encountered and lessons learned, with emphasis on issues arising from the implementation of the reform programmes of the Secretary-General, the triennial policy review and the follow-up to conferences so as to allow the Council to fulfil its coordinating role;

2. *Also requests* the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, when considering the annual reports of the executive heads of the funds and programmes to the Council, to identify specific problems, opportunities and areas in which the Council could provide cross-sectoral

coordination and overall guidance on a system-wide basis and to make appropriate proposals in line with its resolution 1995/51;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when drawing up his annual report for the operational activities segment requested in resolution 1994/33, to take account of the annual reports of the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes, as well as of the comments of the respective executive boards on the annual reports, and to focus the report on the themes to be agreed upon by the General Assembly in the next triennial policy review for future discussion by the Council's working-level meetings of the operational activities segment of its substantive session;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General to arrange for the submission by the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes, in consultation with the United Nations Development Group, to the Council at its annual substantive session, of a concise consolidated list of issues that are central to the improved coordination of operational activities and on which the funds and programmes seek consideration by and guidance from the Council, in particular in regard to the triennial policy review, and to include in the list recommendations whenever possible;

5. *Also invites* the Secretary-General to arrange for the United Nations Development Group to explore ways and means to enhance the consultation with the specialized agencies and the Secretariat in drawing up the consolidated list, as outlined in paragraph 4 above;

6. *Notes* that consecutive and/or joint meetings of the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, bearing in mind their respective mandates, could provide a useful forum for board-level discussion of the issues arising from the reporting requirements mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 above.

44th plenary meeting
28 July 1998

1998/28. International Year of Microcredit, 2005

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 52/194 of 18 December 1997 entitled 'Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty',

"*Recognizing* that microcredit programmes have successfully contributed to lifting people out of poverty in many countries around the world,

"*Bearing in mind* that microcredit programmes have especially benefited women and have resulted in the achievement of their empowerment,

"*Recognizing* that microcredit programmes, in addition to their role in the eradication of poverty, have also been a factor contributing to the social and human development process,

"*Bearing in mind* the importance of microfinance instruments such as credit, savings and related business services in providing access to capital for people living in poverty,

"*Noting* the support to microcredit in the outcomes of different summit and high-level meetings, including the Twelfth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi on 7 and 8 April 1997,[105] the Ninth Summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, held at Male from 12 to 14 May 1997,[106] the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-third ordinary session, held at Harare from 2 to 4 June 1997,[107] the statement on economic and financial issues of the Group of Seven, issued at Denver, United States of America, on 21 June 1997, the substantive session of 1997 of the Economic and Social Council, held at Geneva from 30 June to 25 July 1997,[108] the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government, held at Edinburgh from 24 to 27 October 1997, and the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 19 and 20 May 1998,[109]

"*Noting also* that the year 2005 is the final year of the campaign of the Microcredit Summit, which was held in Washington, D.C., from 2 to 4 February 1997 and which, through its Declaration and Plan of Action,[110] endorsed a global campaign to reach 100 million of the world's poorest families, especially the women of those families, with credit for self-employment and other financial and business services, by that year,

"*Noting further* that the international community is observing the period 1997–2006 as the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty,

"1. *Proclaims* the year 2005 as the International Year of Microcredit;

"2. *Requests* that the observance of the Year be a special occasion for giving impetus to microcredit programmes throughout the world;

"3. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system, all concerned non-governmental organizations, other actors of civil society, the private sector and the media to highlight and give enhanced recognition to the role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty, its contribution to social development and its positive impact on the lives of people living in poverty;

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[105] A/51/912-S/1997/406, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1997*, document S/1997/406.

[106] A/52/222, annex.

[107] A/52/465, annex II.

[108] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 1* (E/1997/97).

[109] A/52/970-S/1998/574, annex.

[110] A/52/113-E/1997/18, annex I.

"4. *Invites* all involved in the eradication of poverty to consider taking additional steps, including the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, so that credit and related services for self-employment and income-generating activities may be made available to an increasing number of people living in poverty, and to develop further, where appropriate, other microfinance instruments;

"5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-eighth session a report containing a draft programme of action for the effective observance of the Year, in consultation with all relevant actors including United Nations bodies, under an item entitled 'First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)' to be included in the provisional agenda of that session."

45th plenary meeting
29 July 1998

1998/29. The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

The Economic and Social Council,

Conscious of the deep interest of Member States in harnessing the benefits of new information technologies for furthering the objectives of the United Nations, including the objectives of economic and social development,

Recalling its resolutions 1991/70 of 26 July 1991, 1992/60 of 31 July 1992, 1993/56 of 29 July 1993, 1994/46 of 29 July 1994, 1995/61 of 28 July 1995, 1996/35 of 25 July 1996 and 1997/1 of 18 July 1997 on the need to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States, with due regard to all official languages,

Recalling also that in its resolution 1997/1 it commended the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics for the concrete actions it had taken in pursuance of its mandate, and requested the President of the Economic and Social Council to convene the Working Group for one more year, from within existing resources, for the due fulfilment of the provisions of the Council resolutions on this item,

Welcoming the oral report presented by the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics on the progress achieved so far by the Working Group in fulfilling its mandate,[111]

Highly appreciative of the accomplishments of the Working Group, which include:

(*a*) The distribution of a large number of computers under a technical assistance programme to enable the missions of the developing countries to overcome the difficulty of hardware availability;

(*b*) Informatics symposia, which are working to build a strong collaboration between the United Nations, Member States and the private sector for the pursuit of common objectives;

(*c*) The programme of outreach from the United Nations to academic institutions through videoconferencing,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 52/233 of 26 June 1998, in which the Assembly emphasized that coordinated efforts by Governments and private, public and international organizations would be required to address the year 2000 problem,

Deeply appreciative of the fact that the work of the Working Group has not involved any additional expenditures and that its needs have been met from within existing resources,

Highly appreciative of the fact that the work done by the Working Group has already resulted in savings for the United Nations and its Member States and has created opportunities for further savings,

Taking note with deep interest of the proposed initiatives of the Working Group, including the promotion of computer-based decision-making techniques to facilitate the drafting of resolutions and documents in ways that would accelerate the reaching of agreements in the drafting process and the employment of modern information technology for the development activities of the United Nations,

Recognizing that the work done by the Working Group will support and facilitate the successful implementation of the initiatives being taken by the Secretary-General with a view to expanding the use of information technology and the availability and transparency of information in order further to facilitate access to United Nations information in all countries,

Agreeing with the assessment in the report of the Working Group that further work needs to be done by the Working Group to fulfil its mandate,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on action taken by the United Nations to implement Council resolution 1997/1,[112]

1. *Reiterates once again* the high priority that it attaches to easy, economical, uncomplicated and unhindered access for States Members of the United Nations and for observers, through, *inter alia*, their permanent missions, to the growing number of computerized databases and information systems and services of the United Nations;

2. *Calls* for the urgent and continued implementation of measures required to achieve these objectives;

3. *Reaffirms* the continuing need for representatives of States to be consulted closely and associated actively with the respective executive and governing bodies of United Nations institutions dealing with informatics within the United Nations system so that the specific needs of States as internal end-users can be given due priority;

4. *Decides* that the action programme to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal

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[111] See E/1998/SR.41. For the final text, see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Plenary Meetings*, 41st meeting.

[112] E/1998/44.

utilization and accessibility by all States should continue to be implemented from within existing resources and in full consultation with the representatives of States;

5. *Highly commends* the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics for the concrete actions it has taken and for the impressive results it has produced in pursuance of its mandate;

6. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to convene the Working Group for one more year, from within existing resources, for the due fulfilment of the provisions of the Council resolutions on this item and for facilitating the successful implementation of the initiatives being taken by the Secretary-General with regard to the use of information technology;

7. *Emphasizes* the need for global cooperation to ensure timely and effective response to the year 2000 challenge;

8. *Requests* the Working Group to continue its work on an information management strategy;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend full cooperation to the Working Group and to give priority to implementing its recommendations;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999 on the follow-up action taken on the present resolution, including the findings of the Working Group.

45th plenary meeting
29 July 1998

1998/30. Proclamation of an international year of mountains

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1997/45 of 22 July 1997 on the proclamation of an international year of mountains,

Recalling also its resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in which it recognized the contribution that the celebration of international years could make to the furtherance of international cooperation and understanding,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the proclamation of an international year of mountains, in which it was recognized that the proclamation of an international year of mountains would provide an impetus for achieving sustainable mountain development,[113]

Recommends that the General Assembly at its fifty-third session proclaim the year 2002 as the International Year of Mountains.

45th plenary meeting
29 July 1998

1998/31. International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001–2010)

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/47 of 22 July 1997 proclaiming the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, as well as its resolution 52/13 of 20 November 1997 on a culture of peace,

"*Taking into account* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/54 of 17 April 1998 entitled 'Towards a culture of peace',[114]

"*Recalling* the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,

"*Taking into account* the project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled 'Towards a culture of peace',[115]

"*Aware* that the task of the United Nations to save future generations from the scourge of war requires transformation towards a culture of peace, which consists of values, attitudes and behaviours that reflect and inspire social interaction and sharing based on the principles of freedom, justice and democracy, all human rights, tolerance and solidarity, that reject violence and endeavour to prevent conflicts by tackling their root causes to solve problems through dialogue and negotiation and that guarantee the full exercise of all rights and the means to participate fully in the development process of their society,

"*Recognizing* that enormous harm and suffering are caused to children through different forms of violence at every level of society throughout the world and that a culture of peace and non-violence promotes respect for the life and dignity of every human being without prejudice or discrimination of any kind,

"*Recognizing also* the role of education in constructing a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular the teaching of the practice of peace and non-violence to children, which will promote the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

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[113] E/1998/68, para. 16.

[114] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[115] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-eighth Session, Paris, 25 October–16 November 1995*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV.

"*Emphasizing* that the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, by which children learn to live together in peace and harmony which will contribute to the strengthening of international peace and cooperation, should emanate from adults and be instilled in children,

"*Underlining* that the proposed international decade for a culture of peace and non-violence for the children of the world will contribute to the promotion of a culture of peace based on the principles embodied in the Charter and on respect for human rights, democracy and tolerance, the promotion of development, education for peace, the free flow of information and the wider participation of women as an integral approach to preventing violence and conflicts, and efforts aimed at the creation of conditions for peace and its consolidation,

"*Convinced* that such a decade, at the beginning of the new millennium, would greatly assist the efforts of the international community to foster peace, harmony, all human rights, democracy and development throughout the world,

"1. *Proclaims* the period 2001–2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World;

"2. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit, in consultation with Member States, relevant United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations, a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session and a draft programme of action to promote the implementation of the Decade at the local, national, regional and international levels, and to coordinate the activities of the Decade;

"3. *Invites* Member States to take the necessary steps to ensure that the practice of peace and non-violence is taught at all levels in their respective societies, including in educational institutions;

"4. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, and invites non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and groups, educational institutions, artists and the media actively to support the Decade for the benefit of every child of the world;

"5. *Decides* to consider, at its fifty-fifth session, the question of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World (2001–2010) under the agenda item entitled 'Culture of peace'."

45th plenary meeting
29 July 1998

1998/32. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/207 of 18 December 1997,

Recalling also its resolution 1997/67 of 25 July 1997,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[31] to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Stressing the importance of the revival of the Middle East peace process on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the principle of land for peace, as well as the full and timely implementation of the agreements reached between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Convinced that the Israeli occupation impedes efforts to achieve sustainable development and a sound economic environment in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan,

Gravely concerned about the deterioration of the economic and living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan, and the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of their natural resources,

Aware of the important work being done by the United Nations and the specialized agencies in support of the economic and social development of the Palestinian people,

Conscious of the urgent need for the development of the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and for the improvement of the living conditions of the Palestinian people as a key element of a lasting peace and stability,

1. *Stresses* the need to preserve the territorial integrity of all of the occupied Palestinian territory and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods in the territory, including the removal of restrictions on going into and from East Jerusalem, and the freedom of movement to and from the outside world;

2. *Also stresses* the vital importance of the construction and operation of the Gaza airport, the seaport in Gaza and safe passage to the economic and social development of the Palestinian people;

3. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its measures against the Palestinian people, in particular the closure of the occupied Palestinian territory, the enforced isolation of Palestinian towns, the destruction of homes and the isolation of Jerusalem;

4. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan to all their natural and economic resources, and calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, endanger or cause loss or depletion of these resources;

5. *Also reaffirms* that Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to economic and social development;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations and of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories under the auspices of the Secretary-General;

7. *Urges* Member States to encourage private foreign investment in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, in infrastructure, job-creation projects and social development, in order to alleviate the hardship of the Palestinian people and improve living conditions;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue to include, in the report of the Special Coordinator, an update on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies;

9. *Decides* to include the item entitled "Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan" in the agenda of its substantive session of 1999.

45th plenary meeting
29 July 1998

1998/33. Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/7 of 3 April 1998,[114] in which the Commission approved the text of the draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commission on Human Rights for finalizing the draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Approves* the draft declaration, as contained in the annex to Commission resolution 1998/7, and recommends it to the General Assembly for adoption at its fifty-third session;

3. *Recommends* that, after adoption by the General Assembly, the full text of the Declaration should be disseminated as widely as possible.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998

1998/34. Working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/14 of 9 April 1998,[114]

1. *Authorizes* the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights established in accordance with Commission resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995[116] to meet for a period of ten working days prior to the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, the costs of the meeting to be met from within existing resources;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend all necessary facilities, from within existing United Nations resources, to the working group for its meetings.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998

1998/35. Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/34 of 17 April 1998,[114]

1. *Authorizes* an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights to meet for a period of two weeks, with a possibility of extending it to three weeks, within existing resources, prior to the fifty-fifth session of the Commission in order to continue or conclude the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;[25]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend to the working group all necessary facilities for its meetings and to transmit the report of the working group[117] to Governments, the specialized agencies, the chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998

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[116] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[117] E/CN.4/1998/42 and Corr.1.

1998/36. Malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming agreed conclusions 1993/2 of 14 July 1993, adopted at the coordination segment of its substantive session of 1993, on coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system in the fields of preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera,[118]

Recalling its resolutions 1994/34 of 29 July 1994 and 1995/63 of 28 July 1995 and General Assembly resolutions 49/135 of 19 December 1994 and 50/128 of 20 December 1995, Agenda 21[119] and General Assembly resolution S/19-2 of 28 June 1997,

Noting with concern that malaria and diarrhoeal diseases remain prevalent in developing countries, especially in Africa, and noting their dire consequences for health and development in Africa,

Recognizing that these diseases especially afflict people living in poverty, that effective and affordable means of preventing and treating them are available and that combating them is an effective and essential element in eradicating poverty and fostering development,

Noting the leadership role in global malaria control given to the World Health Organization in General Assembly resolution 49/135 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/63 and the role of the World Health Organization in directing and coordinating international efforts to prevent and control these diseases,

Acknowledging the important contributions of the United Nations funds and programmes and the role of the United Nations Children's Fund and other bodies of the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and a wide variety of individuals and organizations in controlling these diseases,

Noting in particular the critical role of industry in supporting research and development of vaccines, drugs and diagnostic tests that will further improve the efficacy of preventive and control efforts and the catalytic role being played by the United Nations Development Programme/World Bank/World Health Organization Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases in the development of new disease control products, in collaboration with industry,

Warmly acknowledging the statement supporting malaria prevention and control made during the summit meeting of the heads of State of the Group of Eight, held at Birmingham, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, from 15 to 17 May 1998,[120] and the pledge of 60 million pounds made at that time in support of the Roll Back Malaria Initiative of the World Health Organization,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera;[121]

2. *Supports* the actions taken in 1997[122] and 1998[123] with respect to malaria prevention and control in the context of African economic recovery and development by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity;

3. *Appreciates* the actions taken to strengthen research in endemic countries of Africa under the Multilateral Initiative on Malaria, an initiative widely supported by members of the international development community and by scientists within those endemic countries;

4. *Welcomes* the Roll Back Malaria Initiative of the World Health Organization supporting the existing African initiative on malaria;

5. *Requests* the United Nations, and appeals to international organizations, multilateral financial institutions, the specialized agencies, organs and programmes of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other groups, to join as partners in this initiative by, *inter alia*, contributing technical and financial support;

6. *Notes* that vaccines provide some of the most effective means of preventing disease and that vaccine development, although now made more feasible by multiple developments in the field of biotechnology, remains a difficult and long-term task highly deserving of increased financial support;

7. *Stresses* the importance of adopting and implementing national plans of action in countries where malaria is endemic, in conformity with the Global Strategy for Malaria Control of the World Health Organization;[124]

8. *Urges* international development partners, in collaboration with private industry, to intensify their efforts to develop and distribute widely vaccines and other remedies against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, including cholera;

9. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the donor countries, to expand, where possible, fund-raising channels, to provide adequate financial resources and medical and technical assistance to the affected developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, for the successful implementation of work plans and projects and the achievement of significant progress, in both the short and the medium terms, in

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[118] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/48/3/Rev.1), chap. III, sect. B, para. 33.

[119] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), vol. I, *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[120] For the text, see the summit web site (http://birmingham.g8summit.gov.uk/docs/final.shtml).

[121] E/1998/20.

[122] A/52/465, annex II, declaration AHG/Decl.1 (XXXIII).

[123] A/53/179, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.124 (XXXIV).

[124] World Health Organization, *A Global Strategy for Malaria Control* (Geneva, 1993).

controlling malaria and to intensify basic and applied research on anti-malarial vaccines as a priority;

10. *Urges* the Director-General of the World Health Organization to continue to provide, in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund and other concerned United Nations agencies and programmes and other relevant international organizations, such as the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases Research and the International Vaccine Institute, technical expertise and support to endemic countries;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2001 a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be prepared by the Director-General of the World Health Organization in collaboration with other relevant organizations, organs, bodies and programmes of the United Nations system.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998

1998/37. International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997, by which the Assembly proclaimed the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace,

Recalling also that the General Assembly, in its resolution 52/13 of 20 November 1997, requested the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit a consolidated report containing a draft declaration and programme of action on a culture of peace to the Assembly at its fifty-third session,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the state of preparations for the International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000,[125] for which the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has been designated the focal point;

2. *Requests* the General Assembly to adopt a programme of action for the year 2000;

3. *Stresses* that an international year for the culture of peace at the turn of the millennium would provide the opportunity to boost the efforts of the international community to establish and promote an everlasting culture of peace;

4. *Recognizes*, therefore, that the promotion of a culture of peace should be a high-profile theme in the mobilizing events and evaluations being planned through the year 2000, at the national, regional and international levels:

(*a*) The Year affords the opportunity to make national actions broad-based, providing a special opportunity to promote peace, non-violence, reconciliation and national unity and to prevent violent conflicts;

(*b*) At the regional and international levels, the Year will underline the priorities of peace, all human rights development and democracy and the central role that concerted action by different entities of the United Nations system can play in promoting a culture of peace;

(*c*) The programme of activities for the Year should take into account, as appropriate, the proposed Millennium Assembly during the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly in the year 2000;

(*d*) The programme of action for the promotion of the Year should take into account the agreements adopted at recent major global conferences and summits.[126]

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998

1998/38. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations[127] and the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council on consultations held with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[128]

Having heard the statement by the representative of the Special Committee,[129]

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration, and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, the resolutions of the Special Committee and other relevant resolutions and decisions, in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/66 of 25 July 1997,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

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[125] E/1998/52, annex.

[126] See *Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5–9 March 1990*, Inter-Agency Commission (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990; *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8); and *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13).

[127] A/53/130 and Corr.1.

[128] E/1998/76.

[129] See E/1998/SR.39. For the final text, see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Plenary Meetings*, 39th meeting.

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration,

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Stressing that, because the development options of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continued cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded assistance programmes for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all the appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling other relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/73 of 10 December 1997 entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council on consultations held with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[128] and endorses the observations and suggestions arising therefrom;

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations;[127]

3. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

4. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

5. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

8. *Requests* the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

9. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

10. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

11. *Welcomes* the continuing initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

12. *Encourages* Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

13. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations;

14. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

15. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 1998 of the Economic and Social Council;

16. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee and to report thereon to the Council;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the present resolution, paying particular attention to cooperation and integration arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system, and to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999;

18. *Decides* to keep these questions under continuous review.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998

1998/39. Status of the least developed countries

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/210 of 18 December 1997 which included, *inter alia*, a reference to an assessment of the usefulness of a vulnerability index for small island developing States as a criterion for the designation of least developed countries,

Noting that the requested assessment has not been completed,

Welcoming the proposals to continue the work on improvements to the criteria and methodology for the designation of least developed countries,[130]

Taking note of the content of the letter dated 8 July 1998 from the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Vanuatu to the President of the Economic and Social Council on the proposed graduation of Vanuatu from the list of the least developed countries,[131] wherein reasons were advanced to support the position that the review of the status of Vanuatu should be deferred to the year 2000, and which was circulated as a document of the Council,

1. *Reaffirms* the need for such an assessment to be made in respect of a decision on the graduation of Vanuatu from the list of the least developed countries;

2. *Notes* that the Economic and Social Council will discuss the programme of work of the Committee for Development Planning during the organizational session for 1999 of the Council, and, in this regard, stresses the need for the Committee to include in its report to the Council at its substantive session of 1999 an assessment of the usefulness of a vulnerability index for small island developing States as a criterion for the designation of least developed countries and consideration of the work of all relevant international agencies on the vulnerability of small States;

3. *Decides* to postpone its consideration of the graduation of Vanuatu until the above-mentioned report of the Committee for Development Planning has been submitted and to take a decision accordingly.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998

1998/40. Declaring the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in which the Council recognized the contribution of international years to the furtherance of international cooperation and understanding,

Recalling also Agenda 21,[119] which was adopted by one hundred and eighty-two Governments at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit), on 14 June 1992, and the conclusions of the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session relative to sustainable tourism,[132]

Stressing that the implementation of Agenda 21 requires the full integration of sustainable development into the tourism industry in order to ensure, *inter alia*, that travel and tourism provide a source of income for many people, that travel and tourism contribute to the conservation, protection and restoration of the Earth's ecosystem, that international trade in travel and tourism services takes place on a sustainable basis and that environmental protection is an integral part of tourism development,

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[130] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 14* (E/1998/34), chap. IV, sect. A.

[131] E/1998/89, annex.

[132] General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex, paras. 67–70.

Stressing also the need to promote the implementation of international conventions on environment and development, including those on biodiversity and climate change,

Bearing in mind the need for international cooperation in promoting tourism within the framework of sustainable development so as to meet the needs of present tourists and host countries and regions while protecting and enhancing opportunities for the future, managing resources to fulfil economic, social and aesthetic needs and maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life-support systems,

Recognizing the support of the World Tourism Organization for the importance of ecotourism and, in particular, of the designation of the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism in fostering better understanding among peoples everywhere, in leading to greater awareness of the rich heritage of various civilizations and in bringing about a better appreciation of the inherent values of different cultures, thereby contributing to the strengthening of world peace,

Considering that the designation of the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism will encourage the intensification of cooperative efforts by Governments and international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to achieve the aims of Agenda 21 in promoting development and the protection of the environment,

1. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it declare the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism;

2. *Invites* States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and pertinent intergovernmental and governmental organizations to exert all possible efforts on behalf of the success of the Year, in particular regarding ecotourism in developing countries;

3. *Requests* the Commission on Sustainable Development, within the framework of its discussion of tourism during its seventh session, to recommend to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, supportive measures and activities which will contribute to a successful Year;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, in accordance with the guidelines for future international years as contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, the necessary support to ensure the success of the Year, including the widespread dissemination of pertinent information;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with all relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Environment Programme as well as the World Tourism Organization, and the World Travel and Tourism Council, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report containing:

(*a*) Information on programmes and activities undertaken by Governments and interested organizations during the Year;

(*b*) An assessment of the results achieved in realizing the aims and objectives of the Year, in particular in terms of encouraging ecotourism in developing countries;

(*c*) Recommendations to advance further the promotion of ecotourism within the framework of sustainable development.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998

1998/41. Protection against products harmful to health and the environment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 37/137 of 17 December 1982, 38/149 of 19 December 1983, 39/229 of 18 December 1984 and 44/226 of 22 December 1989, as well as Assembly decisions 47/439 of 22 December 1992 and 50/431 of 20 December 1995,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment,[133] which contains a review of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale Have Been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or Not Approved by Governments,[134]

Noting with satisfaction the continued close collaboration between the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme in the preparation of the Consolidated List,

Noting the successful conclusion of the negotiations to develop a legally binding instrument for the application of the prior informed consent procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade (Rotterdam Convention),

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment,[133] and notes the progress being achieved in increasing the number of countries that participate in the preparation of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale Have Been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or Not Approved by Governments;[134]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the cooperation extended by Governments in the preparation of the Consolidated List, and urges all Governments, in particular those that have not yet done so, to provide the necessary information to relevant organizations for inclusion in future issues of the Consolidated List;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to prepare the Consolidated List, focusing on chemicals and pharmaceutical products in alternate years, with the same frequency for each official language in publishing the Consolidated List as was envisioned in General Assembly resolutions 39/229 and 44/226;

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[133] A/53/156-E/1998/78.

[134] For previous issues of the Consolidated List, see United Nations publications, Sales Nos. E.85.IV.8, E.87.IV.1, E.91.IV.4, E.94.IV.3 and E.97.IV.2.

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary technical assistance to developing countries, at their request, for the establishment and/or strengthening of national capacity for managing hazardous chemicals and pharmaceutical products;

5. *Urges* the adoption of the agreed text of the Rotterdam Convention at the diplomatic conference to be held at Rotterdam, the Netherlands, on 10 and 11 September 1998,[135] and calls for a speedy ratification by the signatories of the Convention, aimed at its early entry into force;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to continue to utilize the work being undertaken by relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations in this area, as well as that being carried out under international agreements and conventions in related areas in updating the Consolidated List;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report every three years, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/229, on the implementation of the present resolution and of previous Assembly resolutions on the same subject.

46th plenary meeting
30 July 1998

1998/42. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 47/199 of 22 December 1992 and 50/120 of 20 December 1995 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling also the role of the Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that policies formulated by the General Assembly, in particular during the triennial policy review of operational activities, are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

Noting the progress made and the work that remains to be accomplished by the United Nations system in the full implementation of the provisions contained in Assembly resolution 50/120,

Recalling Council resolution 1996/42 of 26 July 1996, in which the Council urged all funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations development system to identify measurable targets to strengthen their monitoring and evaluation capabilities and to incorporate those targets into their respective management plans so as to implement Assembly resolution 50/120,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 52/203 of 18 December 1997, in particular paragraph 9 thereof, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, when presenting his comprehensive report on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system at the fifty-third session of the Assembly, to make recommendations for the implementation of reform initiatives on operational activities, bearing in mind the views of Member States,

Strongly reaffirming the need for a substantial increase in resources for operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries,

Stressing the need for continuous overall improvement in the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of the United Nations system in delivering its development assistance, and welcoming steps that have been taken towards that end,

Noting the urgency of a productive outcome from the current discussions on funding strategies being pursued by the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes towards reversing the declining trend in core resources,

Considering the linkage that exists between the recommendations made in the report of the Secretary-General, on advancement of women: implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development,[104] and the triennial policy review of operational activities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;[136]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when finalizing his report for submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, to take into account the views and comments expressed by States during the operational activities segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, when finalizing his report, to take into account the discussions on funding strategies currently taking place in the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, when preparing recommendations for the next triennial policy review, to consider the implications of steps adopted by the United Nations system to implement reform initiatives on operational activities, as agreed in General Assembly resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, taking fully into account the views expressed by States in conjunction with work that remains to be completed pursuant to Assembly resolution 50/120;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when finalizing his report, to provide an analysis of the state of the implementation of resolution 50/120 and related resolutions on operational activities and to make appropriate recommendations;

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[135] The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (UNEP/FAO/PIC/CONF/5, annex III) was signed at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, held at Rotterdam, the Netherlands, on 10 and 11 September 1998.

[136] E/1998/48 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, when finalizing his report, to take into account relevant aspects of agreed conclusions 1998/1 of 17 July 1998, adopted at the humanitarian affairs segment of the substantive session of the Council;[137]

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in his report to the General Assembly, taking into account the discussions in the Council on item 3 (*a*) of the agenda for its substantive session of 1998, entitled "Advancement of women: implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development", and the outcome thereof, to include a section on mainstreaming a gender perspective in the operational activities of the United Nations system, containing recommendations to that end;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in accordance with the coordination, guidance and oversight roles of the Council in the implementation by the United Nations system of the triennial policy review of operational activities, to make recommendations, when finalizing his report, on the possible themes that could be discussed at the working-level meetings of the operational activities segments of the substantive sessions of 1999, 2000 and 2001 of the Council, taking into account the necessary preparatory work for the following triennial policy review;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to undertake, as appropriate, in close consultation and collaboration with recipient Governments and donors, impact evaluations of the themes on operational activities identified by the General Assembly for discussion at future sessions of the Council;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the continued participation of the specialized agencies and regional commissions of the United Nations system and the ongoing collaboration with the World Bank in relevant aspects of United Nations operational activities on the basis of the national priorities of the recipient countries.

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1998/43. Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997, on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[45]

Affirming that gender mainstreaming constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women[2] and for achieving the overall goal of gender equality,

Recognizing the importance of integrating a gender perspective into development as well as into all other policy areas and of addressing the disparity of opportunities between women and men at all stages of their lives if gender equality is to be achieved,

Welcoming the steps already taken by various entities of the United Nations system, including the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional and regional commissions and other subsidiary bodies, the Secretariat, the Administrative Committee on Coordination, the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality and other subsidiary machinery of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and the executive committees, as well as specialized agencies, funds and programmes, to implement agreed conclusions 1997/2,

1. *Invites* the United Nations system, in implementing the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[2] to take into account the different obstacles to the development and empowerment of women in all regions and their roles as actors in and beneficiaries of development;

2. *Reaffirms* that the recommendations contained in its agreed conclusions 1997/2[45] should be implemented as a matter of urgency and at the latest by the time of the five-year review of the Platform for Action in 2000, and calls on all parts of the United Nations system to take immediate action in this regard;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1997 coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system";[138]

4. *Requests* all entities of the United Nations system, in particular the funds and programmes in their operational activities, to adopt a comprehensive, integrated and multisectoral approach to implementing the Platform for Action;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat to contribute to the inclusion of a gender perspective in the reports of the Secretariat, and reiterates that all reports from entities of the Secretariat should reflect a gender perspective;

6. *Urges* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to provide suggestions to the Council and its subsidiary bodies, in particular to other functional commissions, on further measures to implement the strategy of gender mainstreaming;

7. *Decides* to pay particular attention to the feminization of poverty, its causes and remedies when reviewing the theme of poverty eradication in 1999 and to ensure a gender perspective when reviewing the implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, and requests that any documentation to be prepared for this purpose provide an adequate basis towards this end;

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[137] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/53/3), chap. VII, para. 5.

[138] E/1998/64.

8. *Also decides* to continue to monitor annually the way in which its functional commissions and subsidiary bodies implement the Platform for Action, *inter alia*, by mainstreaming the gender perspective, under the agenda items "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits" and "Advancement of women".

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31 July 1998

1998/44. Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its productive dialogue with a broad range of representatives of the United Nations system and with non-governmental organizations at its session on the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits, held from 13 to 15 May 1998, and taking note with appreciation of the summary of that session by the President of the Economic and Social Council[139] and of the report of the Secretary-General[140] as well as the guidance provided by Member States,

Reiterating the need for integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits, while recognizing the specific identity and integrity of each conference,

Recalling its agreed conclusions 1995/1 of 28 July 1995, on coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,[141]

Noting that the work concerning the follow-up to General Assembly resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996 entitled "Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields" and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform", as well as on the triennial policy review of operational activities, on mainstreaming the gender perspective and in many other areas, addresses key issues related to integrated conference follow-up and is complementary to the present resolution,

Reaffirming the importance of the progress made towards meeting the commitments, objectives and goals emanating from conferences,

Recognizing that, while each country has the primary responsibility for the implementation of the integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences, the United Nations system is an important instrument in helping countries to meet this challenge,

I

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

1. *Reiterates* that poverty eradication and the improvement of the living conditions of people everywhere are key development objectives of the efforts of the Council to ensure integrated and coordinated follow-up to conferences;

2. *Reaffirms* the urgent need for the timely and full implementation of all commitments, agreements and targets agreed upon at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including by the United Nations system and international financial institutions, and, in this context, notes the efforts to achieve those targets as well as the target of reducing by one half, by 2015, the proportion of people living in extreme poverty;

3. *Reiterates* the importance of mobilizing new and additional resources from all sources for implementing conference outcomes, and, in this regard, reaffirms the commitments undertaken to fulfil as soon as possible the agreed United Nations targets for official development assistance, and stresses the need for further progress in implementing the 20/20 initiative for interested countries;

4. *Stresses* the important role of civil society in support of the implementation of conference goals, calls upon Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to support the participation of non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries, in the conference follow-up processes of the United Nations, stresses that efforts should be made to facilitate the balanced participation of non-governmental organizations from developed and developing countries, and invites the Non-Governmental Liaison Service to play an active role in involving non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries, in United Nations conference follow-up activities, as appropriate, and in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996;

II

COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT ROLE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Functional commissions

5. *Notes* the results obtained from the review of the functional commissions, and, in that context, agrees that the Council, on the basis of an integrated report by the Secretary-General, shall consider annually the relevant outcomes of the functional commissions on conference follow-up, for transmission, as appropriate, to the funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

Regional commissions

6. *Notes* the results obtained from the review of the regional commissions, and, in that context, invites the regional commissions to pursue conference follow-up on a systematic basis, within their respective mandates and priorities by, *inter alia*, enhancing their interaction with other parts of the United Nations system, in particular the functional commissions;

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[139] E/1998/90.

[140] E/1998/19.

[141] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/50/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 22.

Executive boards of the funds and programmes

7. *Invites* its Bureau and secretariat to convey the outcome of its deliberations to the executive boards of the funds and programmes, and requests the executive boards to take into account the guidance of the Council on the coordinated implementation of conferences, in accordance with their respective mandates and priorities;

III

INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

8. *Welcomes* the role played by the Administrative Committee on Coordination and the contribution of its ad hoc task forces and its standing machinery in promoting United Nations system-wide coordination and coordinated and integrated inter-agency follow-up to conferences at all levels, also welcomes the efforts of the Committee to ensure a clear sharing of tasks and interaction within its standing machinery on the follow-up to conferences, encourages regular interaction between the inter-agency committees of the Committee and enhanced interaction between the relevant executive committees and the standing bodies of the Committee, welcomes and encourages the interaction between the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, on the follow-up to conferences, and requests that collaboration among organizations of the system on conference follow-up also include the use of networks of United Nations system organizations that make use of task managers and information technology and liaise with the Committee;

9. *Also welcomes* the briefings on the work of the Administrative Committee on Coordination given in 1998, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure more intensive and improved interaction between the Committee and the Council and its functional and regional commissions, *inter alia*, by providing briefings after each meeting of the Committee on a regular and timely basis;

10. *Urges* the Administrative Committee on Coordination to disseminate widely throughout the United Nations system, including through greater use of the Internet, the results of its deliberations, including the work of the ad hoc task forces, and to make the outputs of the task forces available to intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system for their consideration when integrating conference goals into their programmes of work, and invites the organizations of the United Nations system, bearing in mind the guidance of member States, to use and implement fully the outputs of these task forces;

11. *Stresses* the role of the specialized agencies in the implementation and follow-up of conference outcomes, calls for further interaction between the Council and the specialized agencies, and encourages more active and high-level participation, in particular at the level of executive heads, by the specialized agencies in its sessions, especially in the consideration of conference follow-up;

IV

COUNTRY-LEVEL FOLLOW-UP

12. *Reaffirms* that national Governments have the primary responsibility for the implementation and evaluation of conference follow-up, calls on all countries to continue to assess the progress made in implementing conference outcomes in those countries, and encourages the dissemination of best practices;

13. *Welcomes* the progress achieved in the coordination of conference follow-up at the country level and urges further intensified efforts to this end, reaffirms that the resident coordinators, within their mandates, have an important role to play in assisting Governments and enhancing United Nations system-wide coordination, and, in this regard, calls on the resident coordinators to facilitate through their annual reports an evaluation of the coordination of the United Nations system activities relating to conference implementation and to disseminate best practices, and invites the United Nations Development Group to exercise fully its important role in ensuring coordinated United Nations follow-up to conferences;

14. *Encourages* the resident coordinator system, within existing mechanisms and in close collaboration with Governments, to continue to foster a broad dialogue with and to support the involvement of all relevant actors in the follow-up to conferences, also encourages the establishment of thematic groups on cross-cutting conference themes as well as the full utilization of collaborative programming frameworks, including the country strategy note, where they exist, and the ongoing pilot phase of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework,[35] as appropriate, to support, at the request of Governments, the development of national strategies and action plans for integrated conference follow-up, and further encourages greater interaction between the country representatives of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including the Bretton Woods institutions;

15. *Recognizes* the importance of integrated and coordinated implementation of conference outcomes, including commitments made under those conferences, in countries not covered by the resident coordinator system, calls on those countries to continue to assess the progress they have made in implementing conference outcomes, and encourages the dissemination of best practices in this regard, including through their existing national voluntary reporting mechanisms;

V

EVALUATION OF THE INTEGRATED IMPLEMENTATION OF CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP

16. *Reaffirms* the importance of the monitoring and evaluation, by the relevant intergovernmental bodies, of the performance of relevant parts of the United Nations system, in accordance with the priorities set by Member States, with respect to assisting countries in meeting the commitments, objectives and goals emanating from conferences, and calls upon the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to carry out evaluations of the impact of their activities in support of the coordinated implementation of conferences, taking into account their existing practices;

17. *Agrees* to consider conducting in the year 2000, as a possible contribution to the Millennium Assembly, without prejudice to the discussion of this issue by the General Assembly, a review by the Council of progress made within the United Nations system in the promotion of integrated and

coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council at its substantive session of 1999 on possible modalities of such a review;

18. *Invites* the Secretary-General to prepare a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution for consideration by the Council in 1999.

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1998/45. Suggested guidelines for addressing the year 2000 problem of computers

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/233 of 26 June 1998 on the global implications of the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, called upon the Economic and Social Council to prepare guidelines on which Member States would be able to draw in addressing the diverse aspects of this problem,

Recognizing the serious risks posed by the year 2000 problem and the urgent need for Member States and all parts of the United Nations system to achieve compliance well in advance of the inflexible date of 31 December 1999,

1. *Adopts* the suggested guidelines for addressing the year 2000 problem of computers contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure broad dissemination of the suggested guidelines for maximum utilization by Member States and those areas of the United Nations system that are not yet year 2000 compliant, as a matter of urgency.

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ANNEX

Suggested guidelines for addressing the year 2000 problem of computers

The objective of the present guidelines is to raise the awareness of Governments on the year 2000 problem and compile a general list of issues that should be considered in this context. The problem stems from the fact that many hardware and software systems use only the last two digits of the four-digit designation of a given year to identify that year. Hence, if not converted by the target date, 31 December 1999, those systems will recognize "00" not as the year 2000 but instead as the year 1900. Electronic systems that are not year 2000 compliant and involve processes based on dates will either shut down, produce meaningless and misleading results or revert to some other date, as a result of which whole sectors of the economy and critical government operations could experience significant disruptions.

Although there is an abundance of material available on the Internet from expert groups and government and private institutions warning about the impact of the date issue, it is felt that there is still a need to stress the complexity of the problem, which could affect not only businesses and Governments but also international cooperation. If one partner in a private or intergovernmental network is not year 2000 compliant, this could create a domino effect, causing the whole network of cooperation to break down and affecting even compliant segments. There is also a misconception that the problem is limited to computer systems. In fact, all equipment configurations with embedded systems that use code or chips and involve the handling of dates could be affected. Misunderstanding of the year 2000 problem as being a problem of individual computer systems has led to the belief that the finding of solutions can be left to technical experts. However, recognition of the fact that the millennium bug affects a wide range of different systems and that a domino effect is possible has led to the understanding of the year 2000 problem as being also a management problem.

This brief note attempts to summarize the issues involved and provide general guidelines for attacking the problem; for more detailed information, readers are referred to the Internet and the other sources of information mentioned above. Although the four-step procedure outlined below is geared to government institutions, most of it applies equally to the private sector.

1. *Problem awareness*

   - Governments and international organizations, at the highest level, should announce their commitment to meeting the year 2000 challenge. Progress should be publicly reported at regular intervals;

   - A year 2000 awareness campaign should be initiated and directed at target groups, such as small businesses and local government agencies, that may still not be aware of the issue and its complexities;

   - A comprehensive year 2000 strategy should be developed that would allow Governments to address the problem in a coordinated manner. The strategic recommendations should be translated into tactical objectives by local governments or executing agents;

   - Cooperation between Governments and the private sector should be initiated at all levels of government, including the national and international levels.

2. *Problem assessment*

   - A management structure should be put in place that assigns clear responsibility and authority for addressing the various aspects of the problem;

   - Year 2000 compliance should be clearly defined in operational terms and standards should be established for determining what constitutes compliance. For critical systems, a formal certification procedure should be considered;

   - Some consensus regarding the order of criticality of processes should be reached. Criteria to be considered are: preventing loss of life, allowing effective government, maintaining civil order, avoiding large-scale hardship, allowing continuation of commercial activities, preventing environmental damage, and so forth;

- Sectors of the infrastructure and systems of national importance for which compliance must be assured should be identified. The list should include but should not be limited to transport and communication, utilities, finance, national security, public health, nuclear facilities and international relations;

- Each organization responsible for providing critical services should be encouraged or required to develop a plan to solve its year 2000 problems. The plan should outline steps to be taken in systems assessment, repair, testing, implementation and coordination with other entities;

- For areas that are not of primary national importance, a risk analysis should be carried out to establish an order of priority for ensuring compliance. It is now recognized that 100 per cent compliance will be difficult to achieve. For low-risk areas where non-compliance will have little impact, action could be delayed;

- To avoid a domino effect, interdependencies between systems of low priority and areas of national importance must be identified;

- The interface between national systems and the systems of other Governments should be defined. Particular attention should also be given to private-sector service providers, for example, in the areas of communication, air traffic control and power supply, who operate on a regional or global level but are an integral part of the national infrastructure;

- Mechanisms for disseminating candid information about the status of remediation should be established;

- Questions regarding public and private sector liability for damages resulting from non-compliance and warranty issues should be investigated.

3. *Problem solution*

- Validation strategies and testing procedures for all converted or replaced systems and their components should be established;

- A manpower analysis should be carried out to determine the human resources required for the conversion. Many countries, especially developing countries, are already experiencing a shortage of skilled information technology workers. This problem will be aggravated by the year 2000 issue. Developing countries will be particularly vulnerable;

- Budgetary provisions must be made to secure funds for new hardware, conversion software, human resources and related costs. Further, the financial responsibility for the cost of conversion must be determined. Some countries may consider funding by international organizations, especially the World Bank, which has grant loan funds available;

- Suppliers and designers of systems should be identified and integrated into the validation and testing process, whenever possible;

- As regards the application of the validation and testing process established earlier, systems will be certified or steps to convert systems will be taken according to their priority. Since problems and their solutions may be similar across applications and processes, a mechanism for the exchange of information and the consolidation of activities should be established at the national and international levels.

4. *Contingency planning*

- Governments should establish general contingency plans for all systems and activities of national importance and the systems that support them for continuity of operations. Back-up arrangements should be made at the national and international levels;

- A hotline should be established so that the public can report possible millennium-related problems and obtain assistance in case of emergencies;

- The disaster recovery plans of all systems should be reviewed and updated to avoid loss of data and ensure the resumption of operation as soon as possible;

- In case year 2000 compliance cannot be achieved before 31 December 1999, some critical systems may have to be temporarily decommissioned and replaced by back-up processes. Planning for the establishment of back-up processes for critical infrastructure systems should start immediately. It is important to determine how far in advance such plans will need to be implemented so as to be effective in the event that the deadline cannot be met.

1998/46. Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997,

1. *Adopts* the texts contained in annexes I, II and III to the present resolution;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the functional commissions for the interest they have taken in reviewing their working methods, and encourages them to continue to do so, taking into account the suggestions and recommendations appearing in annex II to the present resolution, and to adopt practices best suited to their mandates, priorities and responsibilities;

3. *Welcomes* the reform measures undertaken by the regional commissions, and encourages them to continue to undertake, under the aegis of their respective intergovernmental bodies, further measures to enhance their efficiency and effectiveness as presented in annex III to the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to continue its deliberations on pending issues pursuant to the mandates given to it, as contained in General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B;

5. *Also decides* to hold, at its resumed substantive session of 1998, elections for the composition of the bodies as laid down in annex I to the present resolution, so that these bodies are fully constituted from 1 January 1999, and requests its Bureau to work out appropriate mechanisms for the holding of the elections for this purpose;

6. *Further decides* to bring the present resolution to the attention of the General Assembly in pursuance of paragraph 70 of annex I to Assembly resolution 50/227 and paragraphs 9 and 10 of Assembly resolution 52/12 B.

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ANNEX I

Subsidiary bodies identified for restructuring and revitalization

A. COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development shall remain a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council and shall continue to meet biennially for two weeks.

2. The Commission is encouraged to sharpen the focus of its work, devoting particular attention to the issues of transfer of technology and capacity-building in particular of the developing countries. In regard to transfer of technology, the examination of concrete applications/activities is encouraged.

3. Effective coordination shall be established with all other functional commissions and with the Economic and Social Council. The Commission should concentrate, in particular, on working closely with the Commission on Sustainable Development and with the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Methods to be employed to enhance these linkages should include the following:

(*a*) Closer communication should be established between the bureaux of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development as well as with other bureaux of the functional commissions, as appropriate;

(*b*) Regular communication should take place between the secretariats/offices servicing the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Trade and Development Board;

(*c*) The outcome of the meetings of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development should continue to be made available to the States Members of the United Nations, including through briefings to delegations in Geneva and New York by the Bureau and secretariat of the Commission;

(*d*) The outcome of the meetings of the Commission should be shared for information purposes with all relevant functional commissions and other relevant United Nations bodies.

4. The coordination between the Commission and other relevant United Nations bodies, including the regional commissions, should be improved and made more effective.

5. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development shall continue to serve as the secretariat of the Commission. The Commission should make maximum use of the expertise that the secretariat of the Conference can offer, while also drawing, as appropriate, on expertise from elsewhere in the United Nations system, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and relevant specialized agencies.

6. The membership of the Commission is to be reduced from fifty-three to thirty-three with the following geographical distribution: eight members from African States, seven members from Asian States, six members from Latin American and Caribbean States, four members from Eastern European States and eight members from Western European and other States. The term of office is to be four years.

B. COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

7. The Committee for Development Planning shall be renamed the Committee for Development Policy and shall continue to be a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council.

8. The Committee shall comprise twenty-four independent experts with a good mix of expertise, who are to be drawn from the fields of economic development, social development and environmental protection, in order to avoid the need to engage the assistance of consultants and so as to reflect an adequate geographical and gender balance. Membership should include those who are able to contribute on emerging issues and to the multilateral process. The experts should be nominated by the Secretary-General, after consultation with interested Governments, and approved by the Economic and Social Council. The term of office is to be three years.

9. The Committee shall continue the triennial review of the status of the least developed countries and shall meet on this issue once every three years.

10. The Economic and Social Council should decide on an appropriate programme of work for the Committee. In January/February of each year, the Council, at the time of deciding the themes for its substantive session, should advise the Committee about the theme(s) to be considered at the annual session of the Committee, which is not to exceed five working days and is to be held in April/May. The Committee shall submit its report to the Council at its substantive session in July. The report shall also include the proposals of the Committee to the Council concerning its programme of work

for the following year, for consideration and approval at the next organizational session of the Council in January/February.

11. The General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council may also propose, through the Council, issues for consideration by the Committee.

12. The dissemination of information on the work of the Committee should be improved, including through the establishment of an Internet web site and through a presentation by its Bureau on the outcome of its deliberations.

13. In undertaking its responsibilities, the Committee should, in addition to holding its formal meetings, explore the scope for effective preparations for its deliberations via informal networking arrangements. The Secretariat should provide assistance in this regard.

C. COMMITTEE ON NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND ON ENERGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

D. COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

14. The two committees shall be merged into a single expert body, to be named the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development, which shall serve as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council.

15. The Committee should comprise, with due attention to geographical representation and gender balance, two sub-groups of twelve experts nominated by Governments and approved by the Economic and Social Council. One sub-group should deal with issues relating to energy, the other with issues relating to water resources. The geographical distribution is to be as follows: six members from African States, five members from Asian States, four members from Latin American and Caribbean States, three members from Eastern European States and six members from Western European and other States. The term of office is to be four years.

16. The Committee shall meet biennially for two weeks on the understanding that the days available should be divided evenly in a flexible manner between the two sub-groups.

17. Upon the recommendation of both or either of the expert groups of the Committee, the Economic and Social Council may decide on modalities for the establishment of ad hoc expert groups, when necessary, to consider issues relating to minerals.

18. In addition, the General Assembly may invite the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions to consider effective ways to address, within their respective areas of competence, relevant aspects of this issue.

19. In formulating its programme of work, to be presented to the Economic and Social Council for consideration and decision, the Committee should take into full account the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure that its own programme of work will be structured in a manner that could enable it to contribute to the work of the Commission. The Council, in considering and deciding on the programme of work of the Committee, should ensure the special relationship between the Committee and the Commission and a coherence between their respective programmes of work. For its part, the Commission is requested to consider which aspects of its multi-year programme of work the Committee can usefully address.

20. The Committee should maintain close links with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, as appropriate.

ANNEX II

Functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council with specific responsibilities for the follow-up to the major United Nations conferences

1. The General Assembly, in its resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, mandated a review by the Economic and Social Council of the functional commissions of the Council.[142] In recent years, the functional commissions have taken an interest in reviewing their own working methods and should continue to do so, benefiting from the experience gained. Each commission should be encouraged to adopt practices best suited to its mandate and responsibilities. In this respect, the following general suggestions and recommendations are provided by the Council to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the functional commissions.

A. WORKING METHODS

2. Bearing in mind the interlinkages of issues and their cross-cutting nature, there is a need for the functional commissions to strengthen their coordination, while paying careful attention to the mandates and terms of reference of each commission. The Economic and Social Council has to play a key role in this process. In this context, the adoption of a multi-year thematic programme for the functional commissions responsible for follow-up to the major United Nations conferences can be helpful.

3. For those functional commissions that have more than one theme for discussion, sufficient time should be allocated for each of the priority themes so as to enable Member States to have focused and in-depth discussions, bearing in mind the interlinkages between the priority themes.

4. Inter-sessional meetings can help to focus the work of a commission by identifying key elements to be discussed and important problems to be addressed within a specific item pertaining to that work. These meetings should contribute to the preparations for the meeting of a functional commission,

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[142] The functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council entrusted with the follow-up to the major United Nations conferences are the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Population and Development and the Commission on Human Settlements. Although the Commission on Human Settlements is a standing committee, the collective term "functional commissions" is used throughout the present annex.

but should not be a substitute for intergovernmental debates in the context of the meeting of the commission itself.

5. Meetings hosted and funded by Governments can also provide useful inputs to the work of the functional commissions, in relation to their respective programmes of work.

6. The work of the commissions should be organized in such a way as to enable agenda items that may lead to negotiated outcomes to be introduced early, so that there is sufficient time for informal consultation on the outcomes.

7. To avoid duplication or overlapping, the functional commissions may be encouraged to request, through the Economic and Social Council, as appropriate, that another functional commission be charged to look into an issue under consideration by the commission making the request, without overloading the programme of work of the other commission. The functional commissions may also be encouraged to request, through the Council, as appropriate, additional inputs from other functional commissions on issues of interest to the commission making the request.

8. The functional commissions should make better use of panels of experts, which should have balanced representation so as to facilitate consideration of substantive issues. As far as possible, synopses of statements that panellists propose to make should be circulated to Member States sufficiently in advance to facilitate a well-prepared dialogue. Care should be taken to ensure that panel members focus their presentations on the agenda item(s) under discussion and not on a related subject, so that adequate time is available for dialogue. Bureaux should ensure that the time allocated to the intergovernmental debate is adequate.

9. The functional commissions should also explore ways to exchange national experiences and best practices in the implementation of effective conference follow-up, including through voluntary national presentations of country experiences and interactive dialogues. The dialogues should focus, in particular, on lessons learned from national-level conference follow-up. It is also necessary that the Secretariat provide Member States with the highlights of such best practices and lessons learned.

10. Bearing in mind the importance of the general debate in providing useful input for the themes under discussion, the functional commissions should ensure that the debate is focused, adds value and contributes to action-oriented outcomes of the session.

11. The functional commissions must ensure that they add value to the process of implementing the programmes of action adopted by the major global conferences. The commissions should therefore focus on:

(*a*) Deliberating on the progress achieved and the constraints faced as well as action-oriented recommendations on the conference outcomes at the national and international levels;

(*b*) Fostering the exchange of local, national and regional experiences on implementing conference outcomes;

(*c*) Reviewing the progress achieved at the national and international levels on specific issues under their multi-year programmes of work through appropriate reporting systems, so as to draw attention to common experiences, successful approaches and areas of particular difficulty and to identify new and emerging issues that require priority attention;

(*d*) Producing clear, concise and action-oriented outcomes of their deliberations.

12. The voluntary submission of national information, including, for example, information in the form of periodic communications or national reports by Governments, represents a valuable contribution to the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the recommendations of relevant conferences. The Economic and Social Council should reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to prepare a standardized and simplified format, which could be used by Governments in preparing information on a single subject or on clusters of subjects.

13. The functional commissions should mainstream a gender perspective in their work by fully implementing agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997 of the Economic and Social Council,[45] in particular the sixteenth paragraph thereof.

B. Role of the Bureau

14. The Bureau plays a crucial role in facilitating the preparation for and in ensuring the successful outcome of meetings. The incoming Bureau should preferably be elected immediately after the conclusion of the previous session of the commission, as appropriate. Therefore, early designation by regional groups of their candidatures, especially for the position of Chairman, is important.

15. Inter-sessional meetings of the Bureau are very useful and important in preparing for the upcoming session. Regular and informal open-ended briefings by the Bureau, in conjunction with the Secretariat and the Member States, on the preparation for the session, need to be encouraged further. In order to enable the Bureau to carry out its functions effectively, consideration should be given to providing appropriate financial support, through extrabudgetary contributions, to members of the Bureau, in particular those from the developing countries, so as to enable them to participate in the meetings of the Bureau, in inter-sessional meetings of the commission and in the sessions of the commission itself.

16. The bureaux of the functional commissions, along with the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council, are encouraged to enhance coordination, in particular through regular meetings whenever necessary. In addition to meetings, bureaux should explore the scope for coordination via informal networking arrangements. The Secretariat should provide assistance in this regard.

17. The bureaux of the functional commissions should conduct transparent and open-ended consultations with Member States, with a view to seeking guidance from and ensuring greater involvement of Member States in the preparatory work of the sessions of the commissions.

C. PARTICIPATION

18. The participation of officials from capitals responsible for the specific follow-up to United Nations conferences, as well as experts, should be encouraged. High-level participation is desirable and will be facilitated by enhancing the quality of deliberations in the functional commissions.

19. The participation of other relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and other specialized agencies, should be encouraged, where appropriate.

20. The functional commissions entrusted with conference follow-up have benefited from the breadth of expertise of non-governmental organizations and the capacity of those organizations to support the work of the United Nations. Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, the functional commissions should take into account in their deliberations the full diversity of the views of non-governmental organizations at the national, regional and international levels. Efforts should be made to facilitate the balanced participation of non-governmental organizations from developed and developing countries.

D. DOCUMENTATION

21. Reports should be concise, coherent and analytical in order to facilitate a focused discussion and a productive outcome.

22. Reports should contain clear and action-oriented recommendations, which would enhance effective implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences.

23. The availability of reports in electronic format, though desirable, should not substitute for hard-copy reports, which must be made available in a timely manner in all official United Nations languages, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/214 B of 22 December 1997.

24. In the preparatory process, the convening of workshops, seminars, round tables and panels of experts focusing on the priority themes may provide many useful ideas in the preparation of documentation and therefore should be given appropriate consideration. In this context, it is important that efforts be made to facilitate the participation of experts from developing countries in such forums. Consultations with other relevant actors, including non-State actors, when possible and as appropriate, can be useful in the preparation of reports.

25. In the preparation of reports by the Secretariat for the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the subsidiary bodies of the Council, the Secretary-General should continue to make use, when appropriate, of the practice of designating task managers, so that a particular United Nations agency would be responsible for coordinating the response of the entire United Nations system on a given subject, including the formulation of recommendations for future action. All relevant bodies in the United Nations system should be involved in the preparatory process, as appropriate. Where necessary, task forces, reporting to an assigned manager, should be established to facilitate the coordination of inputs.

26. An early exchange of views by/with the Secretariat and Member States on the preparation of reports can be helpful in strengthening their content. The Bureau should monitor timely preparation.

27. To allow more time for the Member States to interact with each other, the introduction of the reports by the Secretariat should be kept to the minimum length necessary and, whenever possible, a group of related documents should be introduced together.

28. Recommendations in the reports should focus on steps taken and measures required to enhance the full implementation of conference outcomes at the national and international levels and should clearly identify those actions that are required for a coordinated United Nations system-wide response. In preparing such reports, the Secretariat should draw on the experiences gained by Member States in their national implementation of follow-up to conferences, bearing in mind that the reporting on national implementation of conference outcomes is the responsibility of Governments. In this regard, support provided by the international community should also be included. The Secretariat should also draw on the experience gained by the United Nations system in assisting implementation at the field level, including through the resident coordinator system. Input from the resident coordinator system should be prepared in full consultation with the national Government.

29. The Secretariat is requested to present issues and approaches in a gender-sensitive manner when preparing reports so as to provide the intergovernmental machinery with an analytical basis for gender-responsive policy formulation and to ensure that the intergovernmental machinery is made aware of the decisions and recommendations of the relevant bodies in relation to gender mainstreaming.

30. The functional commissions, at the conclusion of each session, should consider and decide, upon recommendation of their bureaux, whether their outputs might be relevant to the work of other functional commissions and, if so, request the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council to arrange for this material to be brought to the attention of the other commissions in a timely manner. The functional commissions could also consider whether the reports of other functional commissions are relevant to their work and, if so, request the Bureau of the Council to arrange for this material to be made available to them.

E. OUTCOME/REPORTING

31. The format of the outcomes of the meetings will vary from one functional commission to another, but the outcome should be focused and concise, should contain concrete recommendations and actions, based on intergovernmental deliberations and negotiations, and should not be intended as a redefinition of the already agreed documents of the major conferences.

32. The Secretariat should produce a consolidated report for the consideration of the Economic and Social Council that looks at linkages between the functional commissions. This report should highlight the key points on which the Council needs to consider taking action.

33. The Economic and Social Council should, for its part, ensure that it reviews the above-mentioned recommendations, concentrating especially on horizontal or cross-cutting issues, with a view, in particular, to ensuring consistency between recommendations presented by different functional commissions. Within the agreed outputs, the functional commissions should clearly identify any recommendations that have coordination, programmatic or budgetary implications for the United Nations.

34. The Member States should be given ample time to negotiate the outcome of the meetings.

35. While recognizing the right of any Member State to introduce draft resolutions or decisions that it deems necessary, the functional commissions should be encouraged to utilize agreed outputs that serve to integrate the particular sectoral concerns that may arise within the overall framework of the follow-up to a global conference, as appropriate.

F. RELATIONS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

36. The Economic and Social Council should focus on improving the effectiveness of the functional commissions, including their role as instruments for conference follow-up, through better working methods and harmonization of their multi-year programmes of work. The Council should monitor on a yearly basis the steps taken by the functional commissions in response to Council recommendations on the harmonization of programmes of work. The Council should also monitor annually the way in which its functional commissions mainstream a gender perspective on the basis of the report on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women.

37. The Economic and Social Council should ensure that general discussion in the functional commissions on cross-cutting issues common to the major United Nations conferences should be within their respective areas of competence and within their multi-year programmes of work in order to foster the discussion of such issues by the Council and the General Assembly.

38. The Economic and Social Council needs to be informed fully of the coordinating work of the Administrative Committee on Coordination so that it can ensure that the functional commissions are aware in a timely manner of the work of the Committee related to the follow-up to the major global conferences.

G. INTERRELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS

39. As agreed in Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/61 of 25 July 1997, cooperation among functional commissions should be supported and enhanced by the Bureau of the Council with the assistance of the respective secretariats of the functional commissions.

H. RELATIONS WITH THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS AND OTHER RELEVANT REGIONAL BODIES

40. The regional commissions have been given specific mandates for the follow-up to the major global conferences and they have an important role to play in this regard.

41. Bearing in mind the important role of the regional commissions and other regional bodies in implementing the outcome of the major global conferences, their contribution should be reflected in the work of the functional commissions.

ANNEX III

Regional commissions

1. The General Assembly, in its resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, mandated a review by the Economic and Social Council of the regional commissions. The commissions, in response to Assembly resolution 50/227 and Council resolution 1996/41 of 26 July 1996, as well as on their own initiative, have carried out reforms with differences in content and scope, in accordance with specificities of each region, aimed at achieving greater relevance, efficiency and effectiveness.

2. The Economic and Social Council welcomes the reform measures undertaken by the regional commissions and encourages them to continue to undertake, as appropriate, under the aegis of their respective intergovernmental bodies, further measures in this regard.

3. The Economic and Social Council recognizes that each regional commission operates in a different economic and institutional environment and that regional commissions should therefore continue to respond to regional needs as reflected in the priorities set by members of the respective commissions.

4. Bearing this in mind, as well as the role of the regional commissions within the United Nations system in their respective regions as mandated in section IV of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, the following guidance is provided by the Economic and Social Council with respect to improving the contributions and the relevance of the commissions in the reform process of the United Nations, in accordance with the mandates and priorities of each of the commissions.

A. THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS AS REGIONAL OUTPOSTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

5. According to regional needs and circumstances, the regional commissions fulfil norm-setting, dissemination and analytical functions as well as undertake operational activities that are complementary and mutually reinforcing. The regional commissions provide an important forum for articulating regional perspectives on global issues and for building consensus within their respective regions. This capacity should be utilized more fully by United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, as appropriate.

6. The linking of the activities of the regional commissions more effectively with the overall activities of the United Nations in the economic and social sectors should be pursued vigorously. The active involvement and participation of the executive secretaries of the commissions, or their representatives, in the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Development Group should be effectively ensured.

7. The undertaking of joint exercises in accordance with their respective mandates and priorities should be encouraged between each of the secretariats of the commissions, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat

and the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the basis of memoranda/letters of understanding and should be reflected in their respective programmes of work.

8. An important role has been given to the regional commissions in the preparations for and follow-up to major United Nations conferences in accordance with their respective mandates and priorities. The Economic and Social Council should provide overall guidance for the work of the regional commissions in this area, bearing in mind the need for a multisectoral approach.

9. The Economic and Social Council welcomes the ongoing exercises in some of the regional commissions on priority-setting and encourages the other regional commissions to carry out similar activities. The involvement of Governments in this process should help the commissions to achieve greater effectiveness and efficiency.

10. Improving coordination of the activities of the regional commissions and various United Nations entities operating at the regional level, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, within their respective mandates and priorities, is particularly important. This should be further addressed through the following concrete measures:

(*a*) Reactivation of the United Nations Development Programme/regional commissions task force for the purpose of addressing, more effectively, issues of common concern;

(*b*) Closer consultation of the regional commissions by the United Nations Development Programme during the programming stages of its regional activities, with the Programme considering the commissions to be partners in the undertaking of those activities. The secretariats of the regional commissions should make available to the relevant offices of the Programme, in particular the regional bureaux, their respective programmes of work.

11. The potential for active involvement of the regional commissions in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework[35] should be reviewed in the ongoing pilot phase of the Framework.

B. THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS AS PART OF THEIR RESPECTIVE REGIONAL INSTITUTIONAL LANDSCAPES

12. The role of the regional commissions as part of the institutional landscape of their respective regions calls for close cooperation between the commissions and other relevant regional bodies in order to reinforce synergies and complementarities between their respective programmes of work. The regional commissions are encouraged to intensify their cooperation and regular exchange of information, as determined by their respective intergovernmental bodies, with relevant regional bodies, institutions and networks. When holding meetings with their respective regional bodies and institutions, the regional commissions should ensure that such meetings concentrate on specific issues for which a regional coordinated approach is desirable and reflect the mandates and priorities of the regional commissions.

13. The team leadership role of the regional commissions calls for their holding regular inter-agency meetings in each region with a view to improving coordination among the programmes of work of the organizations of the United Nations system in that region. In this respect, the Economic and Social Council welcomes the efforts by the Secretary-General to improve coordination within the United Nations system, including his proposal of yearly meetings, to be chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, in each geographical area, among the relevant entities of the United Nations system engaged in regional and intercountry activities. These meetings should be cost-effective and built up on already existing coordination mechanisms and should focus on specific issues requiring coordination at the regional level. The outcome of these meetings should be reported to the Council through the respective intergovernmental bodies of the regional commissions, as appropriate. In this regard, the Council encourages the Secretary-General to take into account these measures in his report under the agenda item on regional cooperation in 1999.

C. ROLE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

14. The Economic and Social Council should encourage the regular exchange of information, as appropriate, between the bureaux of the regional commissions and its own Bureau. Whenever possible, the participation of the chairpersons of the regional commissions in the relevant deliberations of the Council should be welcomed. The Council should also encourage the participation of the executive secretaries, when feasible, in its high-level debates and should further encourage inputs from the regional commissions in its substantive consideration of global issues with a regional dimension, including through the utilization of the Regional Commissions New York Office. Regular briefings of the Council by the executive secretaries should be organized during the meetings of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Development Group. The Council should also encourage better two-way flow of information on activities of the regional commissions, including through the simultaneous launching of the economic and social surveys in New York and at the seats of the regional commissions.

15. The Economic and Social Council should also encourage regular interaction between the regional commissions in order for them to share each other's best practices, experiences and concrete achievements. The Council should also encourage interregional cooperation involving two or more regional commissions, as well as the United Nations Development Programme, when appropriate.

16. The Economic and Social Council should promote greater cooperation between the regional commissions and its functional commissions through the regular exchange of information supported by their respective secretariats, as appropriate.

17. The Economic and Social Council should maintain its oversight and coordination role to ensure that decisions taken by the intergovernmental bodies of the regional commissions and the United Nations funds and programmes are complementary and mutually supportive.

18. The Economic and Social Council should encourage the exchange of information and cooperation between the regional commissions and the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization on issues of common interest.

1998/47. Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields: modalities for elections

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking into account its resolution 1998/46 of 31 July 1998 and annexes I to III thereto,

Bearing in mind that the Council, at its resumed substantive session of 1998, will hold elections for the composition of the bodies referred to in annex I to resolution 1998/46, so that these bodies are fully constituted from 1 January 1999,

1. *Decides* to terminate, as of 31 December 1998, the current membership of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee for Development Planning, the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development;

2. *Also decides* to hold new elections for the thirty-three members of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, in accordance with the pattern for regional distribution agreed upon and set forth in paragraph 6 of annex I to resolution 1998/46; and following the election of the new members, there shall be a drawing of lots for all seats, whether vacant or not, to stagger the terms of office: sixteen members of the Commission shall serve for a term of two years (four members from African States, three members from Asian States, three members from Latin American and Caribbean States, two members from Eastern European States and four members from Western European and other States) and seventeen members shall serve for a term of four years (four members from African States, four members from Asian States, three members from Latin American and Caribbean States, two members from Eastern European States and four members from Western European and other States);

3. *Further decides* that, in accordance with previous practice, the terms of office of all the members of the Committee for Development Policy shall be concurrent;

4. *Decides* that the election of members of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development shall be held every four years and the terms of office of all the members of the Committee shall be concurrent.

47th plenary meeting
31 July 1998

1998/48. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/95 of 12 December 1997 on the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Reiterating the importance of the autonomous status of the Institute, as set out in article I of its statute,[143]

Welcoming the recent appointment of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Bearing in mind that the entire operation of the Institute depends solely on voluntary contributions,

Expressing deep concern over the serious financial situation of the Institute, and noting the efforts undertaken to date by the Director to assuage that concern,

Welcoming the growing number of developing countries that contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Reiterating the content of paragraph 334 of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women[2] and the relevant provisions contained in agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997 of the Economic and Social Council, on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[45] which emphasized the need for research and related training activities and the role of the Institute within the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its eighteenth session[144] and the decisions contained therein;

2. *Also takes note* of the programme budget of the Institute for the biennium 1998–1999, approved by the Board of Trustees at its eighteenth session;[145]

3. *Commends* the Institute for its efforts to coordinate its activities with the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and other entities of the United Nations and through relevant inter-agency and Administrative Committee on Coordination subcommittees and its efforts to develop joint activities and fund-raising with the specialized and related agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, so as to promote programmes that contribute to the advancement of women;

4. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening independent research, training and the compilation of related databases, which are crucial elements for mainstreaming a gender perspective into policy, planning and implementation;

5. *Requests* the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in cooperation with the Board of Trustees and all interested partners, taking into account the outcome of the planned Inter-Agency Brainstorming Workshop and the planned International Dialogue on Research Priorities, to draw up a strategic and comprehensive work plan, without delay, setting out a vision for the future, taking into account the comparative advantages of the mandate of the Institute within the United Nations system;

6. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit, in accordance with its proposed work plan, to carry out an evaluation of the

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[143] A/39/511, annex.

[144] E/1998/46.

[145] Ibid., sect. V.

Institute which should include a detailed analysis of the reasons for the financial and staffing situation of the Institute, and the implications thereof for the Institute at all levels, and the results of the activities mentioned in paragraph 5 above;

7. *Requests* the Director, in cooperation with the Board of Trustees, to present a report to the Economic and Social Council at its next substantive session, containing the following:

(*a*) A detailed analysis of the reasons for the financial and staffing situation of the Institute and the implications thereof for the Institute, at all levels, including an up-to-date balance sheet of its finances and reserves and of all the steps taken to strengthen its financial and staffing situation, in accordance with the relevant articles of the statute of the Institute, including financial administration as contained in the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, as well as the system support;

(*b*) Information on the progress of the preparation of a strategic and comprehensive work plan and on steps taken for its implementation;

(*c*) Information on the outcome of the planned Inter-Agency Brainstorming Workshop and the planned International Dialogue on Research Priorities;

8. *Calls upon* the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies in the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to coordinate fully with the Institute and to give support to it, in particular in the programming and implementation of joint activities;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide support to the Institute, in particular in fund-raising activities, by encouraging voluntary contributions to the Institute;

10. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women or to increase their contributions, taking into consideration the importance of those contributions in enabling the Institute to continue to respond effectively to its mandates.

47th plenary meeting
31 July 1998

RESUMED SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1998

1998/49. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1996/43 of 26 July 1996 and 1998/46 and 1998/47 of 31 July 1998 and General Assembly resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields[146] and on the joint exploratory review of cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions,[147]

1. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made in implementing the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B as they relate to the Economic and Social Council;

2. *Acknowledges* that progress is being made in building a growing partnership between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions;

3. *Decides* to consider before the end of its organizational session for 1999 the reports of the Secretary-General on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields[146] and on the joint exploratory review of cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions,[147] as well as the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted in response to paragraph 68 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 50/227.

50th plenary meeting
16 December 1998

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[146] A/53/137-E/1998/66.

[147] E/1998/61.

DECISIONS

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1998

1998/201. Regional cooperation

At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 3 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to consider at its substantive session of 1998, under the item entitled "Regional cooperation", in pursuance of Council resolution 1982/50 of 28 July 1982 and taking into account the joint recommendations made by the executive secretaries of the regional commissions pursuant to Council decision 1982/174 of 30 July 1982, the question of review and reform of the regional commissions, on the understanding that the topic would also be considered in conjunction with the item entitled "Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B".

1998/202 A. Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, nominations, appointments and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions[1]

At its 2nd and 3rd plenary meetings, on 3 and 6 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections postponed from previous sessions

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Council postponed to a future session the election of two members from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000 and that of one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected the following four Member States: BAHAMAS, BOLIVIA, PORTUGAL and URUGUAY.

In accordance with its decision 1995/312 of 27 July 1995, the Council drew lots to determine the terms of office of the elected members from Latin American and Caribbean States. It was thus decided that BAHAMAS, BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, CUBA and PANAMA would serve for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999; and that BOLIVIA, COSTA RICA, JAMAICA, URUGUAY and VENEZUELA would serve for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of eight members from Asian States, one member from Eastern European States and six members from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

The Council elected the following three Member States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999: ARGENTINA, SPAIN and THAILAND.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of one member from Latin American and Caribbean States and one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The Council postponed to a future session the election of one expert from Asian States, one expert from Eastern European States and two experts from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot.

COMMITTEE ON NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND ON ENERGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council postponed to a future session the election of six experts from African States and two experts from Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot.

COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION AWARD

The Council elected ROMANIA for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of three members from African States and one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD OF THE JOINT AND CO-SPONSORED UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS/ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (HIV/AIDS)

The Council elected ALGERIA for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

Nomination postponed from previous sessions

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION

The Council postponed to a future session the nomination of one member from Western European and other States.

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[1] The number of the decision was 1998/202 until the adoption by the Council of subsequent decisions on the subject.

Confirmations

Also at its 2nd plenary meeting, the Council confirmed the nominations by their Governments of the following representatives on the functional commissions of the Council.[7]

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Bruno de Risios BATH (Brazil)

Nam-Hoon CHO (Republic of Korea)

Igor A. ZLOKAZOV (Russian Federation)

Damrong BOONYOEN (Thailand)

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Gerald GAHIMA (Rwanda)

Audrey GLOVER (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Maria ARSENI (Greece)

Christine Umutoni NYINAWUMWANI (Rwanda)

COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

ZHANG Yishan (China)

1998/203. Provisional agenda for the resumed organizational session for 1998 of the Economic and Social Council

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 6 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to include in the provisional agenda for its resumed organizational session for 1998 the item entitled "Social and human rights questions: advancement of women".

1998/204. Provisional agenda for the 1998 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 6 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council approved the provisional agenda for the 1998 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 1998 SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations:
    (*a*) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from the resumed 1997 session of the Committee;
    (*b*) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification.
4. Review of quadrennial reports deferred from the resumed 1997 session.
5. Implementation of Economic and Social Council decision 1996/302.
6. Review of the methods of work of the Committee: implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 and Council decision 1995/304.
7. Implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/32.
8. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/50.
9. Provisional agenda and documentation for the 1999 session of the Committee.
10. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

1998/205. Humanitarian affairs segment

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 6 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, decided:

(*a*) That the humanitarian affairs segment, established in accordance with Assembly resolution 52/12 B, should be held for a period of two days during the substantive session of 1998 of the Council, without setting a precedent for future arrangements for the segment;

(*b*) That practical arrangements for the segment, as requested by the Assembly in its resolution 52/12 B, should be the subject of consideration by the Council and should be part of the review of its organization and methods of work, taking into account the experience gained at its 1998 substantive session and the impact that holding the segment during the substantive session would have on the effectiveness of the work of the session as a whole.

1998/206. Working arrangements for the substantive session of 1998 of the Economic and Social Council

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 6 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided that:

(*a*) The high-level segment of its substantive session of 1998 should be held from 6 to 8 July;

(*b*) The operational activities segment should be held on 9, 10, 13 and 14 July;

(*c*) The humanitarian affairs segment should be held on 15 and 16 July;

(*d*) The coordination segment should be held on 17, 20 and 21 July;

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[7] See E/1998/L.2 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

(*e*) The general segment should be held from 22 to 30 July;

(*f*) The thirty-first of July should be devoted to the adoption of proposals and the conclusion of the session.

1998/207. Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as the preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 6 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided, notwithstanding the provisions of its resolution 1996/17 of 23 July 1996 and without setting a precedent for future special sessions of the General Assembly for which the functional commissions of the Council may be requested to act as preparatory bodies, to transmit directly to the Assembly at its fifty-second session the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as the preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities.

1998/208. Provisional agenda for the substantive session of 1998 of the Economic and Social Council

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 6 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council, having considered the proposed basic programme of work for 1998 and 1999,[3] approved the following provisional agenda for its substantive session of 1998:

1. *Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters*

High-level segment

2. *Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Council decision 1997/319)

World Economic and Social Survey, 1998

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

3. *Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:*

(a) *Advancement of women: implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Council decision 1997/319)

Documentation for information

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the revised system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996–2001 (Council resolution 1996/34) (see also item 14 (*a*))

(b) *Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development undertaken by the United Nations system (General Assembly resolutions 50/120, 52/203 and 52/205 and Council resolutions 1996/42 and 1997/59)[4]

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the draft revised Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (Assembly resolution 52/205)

(c) *Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme*

Documentation

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund (Assembly resolution 48/162, annex I, and Council resolution 1997/59)

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (Assembly resolution 48/162, annex I, and Council resolution 1997/59)

Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (Assembly resolution 50/8 and Council resolution 1997/59)

Question to be addressed

Composition of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (Assembly resolution 50/8)

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[3] E/1998/1.

[4] To be submitted to the General Assembly through the Council.

Coordination segment

4. *Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following theme: coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Council decision 1997/319)

Documentation for information

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-fourth session (Assembly resolutions 52/97 and 52/98) (see also item 14 (g))

Questions to be addressed

Protection and promotion of the rights and welfare of women migrant workers (Assembly resolution 52/97)

Trafficking in women and girls (Assembly resolution 52/98)

Right to development (Assembly resolution 52/136)

Humanitarian affairs segment

5. *Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations (Assembly resolution 46/182, annex, and Council decision 1997/218)[4]

Oral report on assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda (Council resolution 1983/46)

General segment

6. *Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on ways to enhance the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (Council resolution 1997/61)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1997 coordination segment of the Council on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (Assembly resolution 45/264)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1997 coordination segment of the Council on freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation (Assembly resolution 45/264)

7. *Coordination, programme and other questions:*

(a) *Reports of coordination bodies*

Documentation

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-eighth session

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1997

(b) *Malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera*

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization (Council resolution 1995/63)

(c) *Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001*

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-eighth session

(d) *International cooperation in the field of informatics*

Report of the Secretary-General (Council resolution 1997/1)

(e) *Proclamation of an international year of mountains*

Report of the Secretary-General (Council resolution 1997/45)

(f) *International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000*

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Council resolution 1997/47)

8. *Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Council decision 1997/322)

Question to be addressed

Review of the mandates, composition, functions and working methods of the Council's functional commissions and expert groups and bodies (Assembly resolution 52/12 B)

Report of the Secretary-General on review and reform of the regional commissions (Assembly resolution 52/12 B and Council decision 1998/201) (see also item 10)

9. *Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (Council resolution 2100 (LXIII) and Assembly resolution 52/170)[4]

Report of the President of the Council on consultations held with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Council resolution 1997/66)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (Council resolution 1997/66 and Assembly resolution 52/73)

10. *Regional cooperation*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (Council decisions 1979/1 and 1998/201)

Summary of the economic survey of Europe, 1997

Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1997

Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Asia and the Pacific, 1998

Summary of the economic survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1997

Summary of economic and social developments in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, 1997

11. *Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Council resolution 1997/67 and Assembly resolution 52/207[4]

12. *Non-governmental organizations*

Documentation

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (Council resolutions 3 (II) and 1996/31 and decisions 1995/304 and 1997/296)

Question to be addressed

Enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (Council resolution 1997/57)

13. *Economic and environmental questions*

Documentation

Relevant sections of the document prepared by the Secretariat containing a consolidation of conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68)

(a) *Sustainable development*

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its sixth session (Council decision 1993/207 and resolution 1997/63)

Question to be addressed

Guidelines for sustainable consumption patterns (Council resolution 1997/53)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Council resolution 1997/53 on consumer protection

Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-second session (Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1625 (LI))

Report of the Secretary-General on a vulnerability index for small island developing States (Assembly resolution 51/183)[4]

Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment (Assembly resolution 39/229)[4]

(b) *Natural resources*

Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its fourth session (Council decisions 1992/218 and 1993/302)

(c) *Energy*

Report of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development on its third session (Council decision 1992/218)

(d) *International cooperation in tax matters*

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (Council resolutions 1273 (XLIII) and 1765 (LIV))

(e) *Public administration and finance*

Report of the Secretary-General (Assembly resolution 50/225)[4]

Report of the Secretary-General on the fourteenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance

(Council resolution 1199 (XLII) and decision 1997/222)

(f) *Cartography*

Report of the Secretary-General on the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (Council decision 1997/213)

(g) *Population and development*

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-first session (Council decision 1997/220)

14. *Social and human rights questions*

Documentation

Relevant sections of the document prepared by the Secretariat containing a consolidation of conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68)

(a) *Advancement of women*

Documentation

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women)[4]

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-second session (Council resolutions 11 (II) and 1147 (XLI) and decision 1997/229)

Question to be addressed

High-level plenary review to appraise and assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the revised system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996-2001 (Council resolution 1996/34)

Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (Council resolution 1998 (LX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action (Assembly resolutions 50/203 and 52/100)[4]

(b) *Social development*

Documentation

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-sixth session (Council resolutions 10 (II) and 1996/7 and decision 1997/230)

Question to be addressed

Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly in 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (Assembly resolution 52/25)

(c) *Crime prevention and criminal justice*

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its seventh session (Council resolution 1992/1 and decision 1997/232)

Questions to be addressed

Final recommendations of the Commission on the programme for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Assembly resolution 52/91)

Follow-up to the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime (Assembly resolution 52/85)

(d) *Narcotic drugs*

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-first session (Council resolution 9 (I) and decision 1997/233)

Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board (article 15 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; article 18 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971; and article 23 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances)

Report of the Secretary-General on the biennial update of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (Assembly resolution 48/112, sect. IV)[4]

(e) *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*

Documentation

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees[4]

Oral report on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa (Assembly resolution 52/101)

(f) *Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination*

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (Assembly resolutions 49/146 and 52/111)

(g) *Human rights*

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-fourth session (Council resolutions 5 (I) and 9 (II) and Assembly resolutions 52/97 and 52/98)

Questions to be addressed

Protection and promotion of the rights and welfare of women migrant workers (Assembly resolution 52/97)

Trafficking in women and girls (Assembly resolution 52/98)

Right to development (Assembly resolution 52/136)

Report of the Human Rights Committee (article 45 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights)[4]

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Council resolutions 1988 (LX) and 1985/17)

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Assembly resolution 44/25, annex)[4]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (Assembly resolution 48/121) (see also item 4)[4]

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Assembly resolution 48/141)[4]

Documentation for information

Reports submitted by States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and by the specialized agencies

1998/209. Basic programme of work of the Economic and Social Council for 1999

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 6 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following list of questions for inclusion in the programme of work for 1999:

Substantive session of 1999

A. *High-level segment*

[Item/items to be selected][5]

World Economic and Social Survey, 1999

B. *Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment*

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly

Report of the Secretary-General

Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund (Assembly resolution 48/162, annex, and Council resolution 1995/51)

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (Assembly resolution 48/162, annex, and Council resolution 1995/51)

Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (Assembly resolution 50/8 and Council resolution 1995/51)

Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries[4]

C. *Coordination segment*

Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes:

[Theme/themes to be selected]

D. *Humanitarian affairs segment*

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations (Assembly resolution 46/182, annex)[4]

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[5] In its resolution 52/190, the General Assembly invited the Council to consider devoting one high-level segment before the year 2001 to human settlements and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda; in its resolutions 50/203 and 52/100, the Assembly invited the Council to consider devoting, before the year 2000, one high-level segment to the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women; in its resolution 52/86, the Assembly invited the Council to consider including the question of violence against women in the high-level segment of one of its forthcoming sessions, in the context of its discussion on the human rights of women.

Oral report on assistance to the drought-stricken areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda (Council resolution 1983/46)

E. *General segment*

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the 1998 agreed conclusions of the Council (Assembly resolution 45/264)

Report of the Secretary-General on ways to enhance the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (Council resolution 1997/61)

Overall review of the theme of poverty eradication (Council resolution 1997/60)

Coordination, programme and other questions

Reports of coordination bodies

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-ninth session

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1998

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-ninth session

Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) (Council resolution 1997/52)

Calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields

Draft calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for the biennium 2000-2001

Report of the Secretary-General on the utilization of conference services by the Economic and Social Council

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (Council resolution 2100 (LXIII))[4]

Regional cooperation

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (Council decision 1979/1), including the report of the Secretary-General on a subject relating to interregional cooperation of common interest to all regions (Council resolution 1982/50 and decision 1982/174)

Note by the Secretary-General on a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar (Council resolution 1997/48)

Summaries of the surveys of economic conditions in the five regions prepared by the regional commissions (Council resolution 1724 (LIII))

Non-governmental organizations

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (Council resolutions 3 (II) and 1996/31 and decision 1995/304)

Economic and environmental questions

Relevant sections of the document prepared by the Secretariat containing a consolidation of conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68)

Sustainable development

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its seventh session (Council decision 1993/207)

Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-third session (Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1625 (LI))

Science and technology for development

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its fourth session (Council decisions 1992/218, 1997/305 and 1997/306)

Statistics

Report of the Statistical Commission on its thirtieth session (Council resolutions 8 (I), 8 (II) and 1566 (L) and decision 1997/219)

Human settlements

Report of the Commission on Human Settlements on its seventeenth session (Assembly resolutions 32/162, 43/181 and 52/190)[4]

Environment

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twentieth session (Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII))[4]

Women in development

Report of the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development (Assembly resolutions 42/178 and 52/195)[4]

Transport of dangerous goods

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 1997–1998 and on the implementation of Council resolution 1997/3 (Council resolutions 724 C (XXVIII), 1488 (XLVIII) and 1983/7)

Desertification and drought

Report of the Secretary-General (Assembly resolutions 3054 (XXVIII) and 50/114 and Council resolution 1978/37)[4]

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

Report of the Secretary-General (Assembly resolution 44/236, annex)[4]

Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (article 34 of the Charter)[4]

Population and development

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-second session (Assembly resolution 49/128, para. 25, and Council decision 1995/209)

Social and human rights questions

Relevant sections of the document prepared by the Secretariat containing a consolidation of conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies (Assembly resolution 50/227, annex I, para. 68)

Advancement of women

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women)[4]

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-third session (*Council resolutions* 11 (II) and 1147 (XLI))

Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (Council resolution 1998 (LX))

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Assembly resolutions 50/203 and 52/100)[4]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolution 52/93 on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas[4]

Social development

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-seventh session (Council resolutions 10 (II) and 1996/7)

Report of the Secretary-General on effective ways and means for achieving the goal of education for all (Assembly resolution 52/84)[4]

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its eighth session (Council resolution 1992/1 and decision 1997/232)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolution 52/86 on crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women[4]

Narcotic drugs

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-second session (Council resolution 9 (I))

Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board (article 15 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; article 18 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971; and article 23 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances)

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees[4]

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Report of the Secretary-General (Assembly resolutions 49/146 and 52/111)

Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Mid-point review by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the results of the activities for the Decade (General Assembly resolution 50/157)

Human rights

Report of the Human Rights Committee (article 45 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights)[4]

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Council resolutions 1988 (LX) and 1985/17)

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Assembly resolution 44/25, annex)[4]

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-fifth session (Council resolutions 5 (I) and 9 (II))

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Assembly resolution 48/141)[4]

Documentation for information

Reports submitted by States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and by the specialized agencies

1998/210 A. Postponement of consideration of the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session[6]

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 6 February 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to postpone to its resumed organizational session consideration of the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session[7] and of the statement of the administrative and programme budget implications of those recommendations, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council.[8]

RESUMED ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1998

1998/202 B. Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, nominations, appointments and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected the following eight Member States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BURUNDI, CHILE, CROATIA, GUINEA, HAITI, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), ITALY and YEMEN.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of two members from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000 and that of one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected the following eleven Member States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, CROATIA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HAITI, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), SPAIN, SWEDEN, THAILAND and TURKEY.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of three members from African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The Council elected the following fourteen Member States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: COLOMBIA, FRANCE, LATVIA, LIBERIA, MADAGASCAR, MAURITIUS, MEXICO, NIGER, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, ROMANIA and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The Council elected the following eleven Member States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BELGIUM, BURUNDI, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, EGYPT, ITALY, LITHUANIA, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SENEGAL and TURKEY.

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected the following twenty Member States for a three-year term beginning after the seventh session of the Commission, in 1999, and expiring at the close of the session of the Commission in the year 2002: ANGOLA, BELGIUM, CAMEROON, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CUBA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, DENMARK, GERMANY, GUYANA, ITALY, KAZAKHSTAN, LEBANON, MOZAMBIQUE, NETHERLANDS, PARAGUAY, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA and TUNISIA.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The Council elected the following eighteen Member States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, CAMEROON, CHILE, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, FINLAND, GABON, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), JAPAN, LITHUANIA, MALI, PAKISTAN, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, TURKEY, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and VIET NAM.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of two members from African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Council elected the following eighteen Member States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: ALGERIA, BOLIVIA, CHILE, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CUBA,

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[6] The number of the decision was 1998/210 until the adoption by the Council of a subsequent decision on the subject.

[7] See E/1997/L.23 and Add.2.

[8] E/1998/L.4.

ETHIOPIA, FRANCE, INDIA, IRELAND, LEBANON, PAKISTAN, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SUDAN, TUNISIA, TURKEY and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of one member from African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

The Council elected the following nine experts for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: Mahmoud Samir Ahmed (Egypt), Clément Atangana (Cameroon), Virginia Bonoan-Dandan (Philippines), Paul Hunt (New Zealand), Valeri I. Kouznetsov (Russian Federation), Eibe Riedel (Germany), Jaime Alberto Marchan Romero (Ecuador), Nutan Thapalia (Nepal) and Javier Wimer Zambrano (Mexico).

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

The Council elected the following eleven States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: CANADA, CHINA, DENMARK, FRANCE, GUYANA, PAKISTAN, PARAGUAY, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SWITZERLAND, UKRAINE and ZIMBABWE.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME/UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

The Council elected the following eleven States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BELARUS, CANADA, CUBA, ETHIOPIA, GUATEMALA, INDIA, ITALY, KYRGYZSTAN, SWITZERLAND, UKRAINE and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

FRANCE and NORWAY will withdraw from the Board effective 1 January 1999 and will be replaced, respectively, by GERMANY for a term expiring on 31 December 2000 and SWEDEN for a term expiring on 31 December 1999.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The Council elected the following six Member States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: CONGO, DENMARK, HAITI, MOROCCO, SWEDEN and YEMEN.

NORWAY will withdraw from the Board effective 1 January 1999 and will be replaced by the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND for a term expiring on 31 December 2000.

PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD OF THE JOINT AND CO-SPONSORED UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS/ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (HIV/AIDS)

The Council elected the following four Member States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BRAZIL, GERMANY, RUSSIAN FEDERATION and SPAIN.

DENMARK will withdraw from the Board effective 1 January 1999 and will be replaced by FINLAND for a term expiring on 31 December 1999.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of two members from African States and two members from Asian States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Nominations

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION

The Council nominated the following six Member States for election by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BENIN, CHINA, EGYPT, JAPAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA and URUGUAY.

The Council postponed to a future session the nomination of one member from African States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

The Council further postponed to a future session the nomination of one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

Confirmations

The Council confirmed the nominations by their Governments of the following representatives on the functional commissions of the Council:

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Olexandr G. OSAULENKO (Ukraine)

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Françoise GASPARD (France)

COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Joseph R. COBBINAH (Ghana)

Appointments

COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The Council deferred the appointment of twenty-four members to the Committee pending the outcome of consultations being conducted on General Assembly resolution 50/227.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

The Council appointed Esther Maria Ashton (Bolivia), Mamosebi Theresia Pholo (Lesotho) and Cecilia Valcárcel Alcázar (Spain) for a three-year term beginning on 1 July 1998.

Elections postponed from previous sessions

COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected the following three Member States for a term beginning on the date of election: INDIA, REPUBLIC OF KOREA and SLOVAKIA.

In accordance with its decision 1995/312 of 27 July 1995, the Council drew lots to determine the initial terms of office of the elected members from Eastern European States. It was thus decided that the following three States would serve for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001: RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SLOVAKIA and UKRAINE; the following three States would serve for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999: BELARUS, BULGARIA and ROMANIA.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of six members from Asian States and six members from Western European and other States. The drawing of lots to determine the terms of office of members from these regional groups was also postponed until their membership is complete.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

The Council elected PORTUGAL for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The Council elected the following three experts for a term beginning on the date of election: Jesús Martínez Frías (Spain), Manuel Carlos Serrano Pinto (Portugal) and Carlos G. Tomboc (Philippines).

Pursuant to its decision 1996/222, the Council also elected the following experts, nominated by their Governments, for a term beginning on the date of election: Owen MacDonald Kankhulungo (Malawi), Hendrik Martinus Oudshoorn (Netherlands) and Eddy Kofi Smith (Ghana).

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of one expert from Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election.

The terms of office of the members will be determined by lot once the membership is complete.

COMMITTEE ON NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND ON ENERGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected Johannes Tonderayi Chigwada (Zimbabwe) for a term beginning on the date of election.

Pursuant to its decision 1996/222, the Council also elected Wilhelmus C. Turkenburg (Netherlands) for a term beginning on the date of election.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of five experts from African States and two experts from Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election.

The terms of office of the members will be determined by lot once the membership is complete.

COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION AWARD

The Council elected the following three Member States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000: CAPE VERDE, GRENADA and LESOTHO.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of one member from African States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

1998/210 B. Postponement of consideration of the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to postpone consideration of three of the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session[9] and of the statement of the administrative and programme budget implications of those recommendations, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council,[9] and to take no action on the fourth recommendation contained in the report of the Committee.[10]

1998/211. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957, in which the Assembly provided for the establishment of an Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as Assembly resolutions 1958 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963, 2294 (XXII) of 11 December 1967, 36/121 D of 10 December 1981, 42/130 of 7 December 1987, 45/138 of 14 December 1990, 48/115 of 20 December 1993, 49/171 of 23 December 1994, 50/228 of 7 June 1996 and 51/72 of 12 December 1996, in which the Assembly provided for subsequent increases in the membership of the Executive Committee, took note of the request regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the annex to the note verbale dated 14 October 1997 from the Permanent Mission of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[11] and recommended that the Assembly should take a decision at its fifty-third session on the question of increasing the membership of the Executive Committee from fifty-three to fifty-four States.

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[9] See E/1997/L.23.

[10] See E/1997/L.23/Add.2.

[11] E/1998/3.

SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1998

1998/202 C. Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, nominations, appointments and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Council decided that SWEDEN, which had withdrawn from the Commission, would be replaced by FINLAND for a term beginning on 31 July 1998 and expiring at the conclusion of the seventh session of the Commission, in 1999.

Elections postponed from previous sessions

PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD OF THE JOINT AND CO-SPONSORED UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HUMAN MMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS/ACQUIREDIMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (HIV/AIDS)

The Council elected INDIA for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of two members from African States and one member from Asian States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

1998/212. Adoption of the agenda of the substantive session of 1998 and other organizational matters

1. At its 12th plenary meeting, on 6 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council adopted the agenda of its substantive session of 1998[12] and approved the organization of work of the session.[13]

2. At its 19th, 28th and 32nd plenary meetings, on 9, 15 and 17 July 1998, the Council approved the requests made by non-governmental organizations to be heard by the Council at its substantive session of 1998.[14]

1998/213. Venue of the twenty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

At its 35th plenary meeting, on 20 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, noting the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of resolution 575 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998 on the place and date of the twenty-eighth session of the Commission, decided to endorse the decision of the Commission to accept the invitation of the Government of Mexico to hold the twenty-eighth session of the Commission in Mexico in the year 2000.

1998/214. Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of regional cooperation

At its 35th plenary meeting, on 20 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Report of the Secretary-General on the regional commissions in the context of a programme for reform of the United Nations;[15]

(*b*) Addendum 1 to the report, containing a review of the implementation of reform within the regional commissions;[16]

(*c*) Addendum 2 to the report, containing resolutions and decisions adopted at the recent sessions of the regional commissions calling for action by the Council or brought to its attention;[17]

(*d*) Addendum 3 to the report, containing a letter from the Chairman of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its fifty-fourth session to the President of the Council at its substantive session of 1998;[18]

(*e*) Summary of the economic survey of Europe, 1997;[19]

(*f*) Summary of the survey of the economic and social situation in Africa, 1997;[20]

(*g*) Summary of the economic and social survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1998;[21]

(*h*) Summary of the economic survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1997;[22]

(*i*) Summary of the survey of economic and social developments in the ESCWA region, 1997–1998.[23]

1998/215. Consumer protection guidelines for sustainable consumption

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 1997/53 of 23 July 1997 on consumer protection

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[12] See E/1998/100 and Add.1.

[13] See E/1998/L.9.

[14] See E/1998/82 and Add.1 and 2.

[15] E/1998/65.

[16] E/1998/65/Add.1.

[17] E/1998/65/Add.2.

[18] E/1998/65/Add.3.

[19] E/1998/11.

[20] E/1998/12.

[21] E/1998/13.

[22] E/1998/14.

[23] E/1998/15.

(*a*) Noted with appreciation the organization of the Interregional Expert Group Meeting on Consumer Protection and Sustainable Consumption, held at São Paulo, Brazil, and the specific recommendations[24] of that meeting on new guidelines, as requested in Council resolution 1997/53;

(*b*) Took note of the report of the Secretary-General;[25]

(*c*) Invited Governments to undertake national consultations, with appropriate stakeholder groups, including consumer organizations and representatives of business, trade unions and non-governmental organizations, on guidelines for sustainable consumption, and to submit their views on the proposed new guidelines to the Secretariat so that they can be made available to all Governments;

(*d*) Invited the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development to organize, within existing resources, open-ended consultations among States, and to report thereon to the Inter-sessional Ad Hoc Working Group for its consideration, having regard to the report of the Secretary-General;[25]

(*e*) Requested the Commission to report to the Council at its substantive session of 1999 on guidelines for sustainable consumption.

1998/216. Matters relating to the third session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council approved the request of the Commission on Sustainable Development to hold the third session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests at Geneva from 3 to 14 May 1999.

1998/217. Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its sixth session, and provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Commission

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its sixth session,[26] and approved the provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Sectoral theme: oceans and seas.
4. Cross-sectoral theme: consumption and production patterns, including recommendations for sustainable consumption for inclusion in the United Nations guidelines for consumer protection as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1997/53.
5. Economic sector/major group: tourism.
6. Comprehensive review of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.
7. Initiation of preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on issues related to the sectoral theme: energy.
8. High-level meeting.
9. Other matters.
10. Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Commission.
11. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its seventh session.

1998/218. Dates of the ninth Meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided that the ninth Meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters should take place in the first half of 1999, as envisaged in the programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999, so that the report of the meeting could be submitted to the Council at its substantive session of 1999.

1998/219. Dates of the fifteenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided that the fifteenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance should take place during the first quarter of the year 2000.

1998/220. Assessment of progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/225

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Secretary-General should conduct a five-year assessment of the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/225 on public administration and development, and report his findings to the Assembly through the Council in the year 2001.

1998/221. Seventh and eighth United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(*a*) To endorse the recommendation that the Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names be convened for eight working days in the second half of 2002;

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[24] See E/CN.17/1998/5, annex.

[25] E/CN.17/1998/5.

[26] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

(*b*) To endorse also the recommendation that the twentieth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names be convened during the fourth quarter of 1999;

(*c*) To request the Secretary-General to take measures, as appropriate, to implement the recommendations of the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, especially with regard to the work of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

1998/222. Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-first session and provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council:

(*a*) Took note of the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-first session;[27]

(*b*) Approved the provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

A. *Commission on Population and Development acting in regular session*

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda of the regular session of the Commission on Population and Development and other organizational matters.

3. World population situation.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends

4. Follow-up to actions on the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development:

   (*a*) Population growth, structure and distribution;

   (*b*) Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development.

   Documentation

   Concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring: population growth, structure and distribution

   Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources in international assistance for population

   Report on the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development

5. Work of the Commission on Population and Development in the next quinquennium.

6. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and the programme of work for the biennium 1998–1999: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission.

   Documentation

   Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission on Population and Development

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-second session, acting in regular session.

B. *Commission on Population and Development acting as preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly on overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda of the Commission on Population and Development acting as preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly and other organizational matters.

3. Preparation for the special session of the General Assembly.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

   Report of the international forum on the operational review of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

   Draft report of the Secretary-General for the special session of the General Assembly on the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

4. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-second session, acting as preparatory body.

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[27] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5* (E/1998/25).

1998/223. Organizational meeting in 1998 of the Commission on Sustainable Development

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council:

(*a*) Authorized the Commission on Sustainable Development to convene an organizational meeting in 1998 for the sole purpose of holding elections to fill the two remaining posts of Vice-Chairmen of the Bureau of its seventh session, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council. The terms of office of the two Vice-Chairmen would begin immediately upon election and would end at the conclusion of the seventh session of the Commission, in 1999;

(*b*) Decided that in that context the provisions of subparagraph (*d*) of its decision 1993/207 of 12 February 1993 did not apply.

1998/224. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-second session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-third session of the Commission

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 28 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-second session,[28] and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-third session of the Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE FORTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women:
   (*a*) Review of mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system;

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken and the progress achieved in the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and in mainstreaming a gender perspective within the United Nations system

   (*b*) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on the differential impact of population ageing on men and women, as a contribution to the International Year of Older Persons

   (*c*) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern.

   Documentation

   Analytical report of the Secretary-General on the thematic issues before the Commission in accordance with the multi-year work programme, including, as far as possible, progress made in national implementation, based on available existing data and statistics
4. Initiation of the comprehensive review and appraisal of the implementation of the Platform for Action and preparation for the high-level plenary review in the year 2000.
5. Communications concerning the status of women.

   Documentation

   Lists of confidential and non-confidential communications concerning the status of women
6. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, including the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention.
7. Provisional agenda for the forty-fourth session of the Commission.
8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-third session.

1998/225. Activities of the Consultative Group for the International Year of Older Persons

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 28 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(*a*) That the ad hoc informal open-ended support group to assist the Commission for Social Development in preparations for the International Year of Older Persons, in addition to its current activities of promoting awareness and exchange of information on the preparations for the International Year between States, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, would serve as an informal consultative forum for discussing national and international proposals and initiatives to help lay the groundwork for the discussion of the item on the International Year at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission;

(*b*) To change the name of the support group to Consultative Group for the International Year of Older Persons, keeping the informal and open-ended nature of the Group.

1998/226. Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-sixth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 28 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council:

(*a*) Took note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-sixth session,[29] and endorsed the decisions adopted by the Commission;

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[28] Ibid., *Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/1998/27 and Corr.1).

[29] Ibid., *Supplement No. 6* (E/1998/26).

(*b*) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development:

The Commission will review progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, and at each of its sessions will consider issues relating to the enabling environment for social development, the special situation of Africa and the least developed countries, enhancement of social development goals in structural adjustment programmes, the mobilization of domestic and international resources for social development, and the framework for international, regional and subregional cooperation for social development.

(*a*) Priority themes:

(i) Social services for all;

(ii) Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit;

(*b*) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.

In accordance with earlier decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission, the Commission will consider, under item 3 (*b*) of the agenda of its thirty-seventh session, issues pertaining to ageing, in particular the International Year of Older Persons, 1999.

The Commission will also have before it the outcome of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8–12 August 1998).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on social services for all

Report of the Secretary-General on the initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the results of expert workshop(s)

Note by the Secretary-General regarding the International Year of Older Persons and follow-up arrangements

4. Programme questions and other matters:

(*a*) Programme performance and implementation;

(*b*) Proposed programme of work of the Secretariat for the biennium 2000–2001;

(*c*) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the draft proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

5. Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission.

6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-seventh session.

1998/227. Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its seventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the eighth session of the Commission

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 28 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council:

(*a*) Took note of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its seventh session;[30]

(*b*) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the eighth session of the Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1. Election of officers.

(Legislative authority: rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and Commission decision 1/101)

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/1; and rules 5 and 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council)

3. Work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention:

(*a*) Criminal justice reform and strengthening of legal institutions: the development, analysis and policy use of crime and criminal justice information, and the computerization of criminal justice operations;

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[30] Ibid., *Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/1998/30 and Corr.1).

(*b*) Technical cooperation;

(*c*) Cooperation with other United Nations entities and other bodies;

(*d*) Resource mobilization.

Documentation

Report on the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention

(Legislative authority: Council resolutions 1992/22, 1996/11, 1997/27, 1997/35 and 1998/24)

Report on the work of the institutes comprising the United Nations network of institutes on crime prevention and criminal justice

(Legislative authority: Council resolution 1992/22)

4. Strategies for crime prevention:

(*a*) Promotion and maintenance of the rule of law and good governance: crime and public security;

(*b*) Elimination of violence against women;

(*c*) Development of crime prevention standards.

Documentation

Report on crime prevention

(Legislative authority: Council resolutions 1996/12, para. 17, 1997/24, para. 16, 1997/33, paras. 2, 3 and 4, and 1997/34, paras. 5 and 8)

5. Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

Documentation

Report on progress made in the preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, including reports of the regional preparatory meetings for the Tenth Congress

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolution 52/91; and Council resolution 1998/13, para. 19)

6. International cooperation in combating transnational crime:

(*a*) Implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime;

Documentation

Report on the implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolution 52/85, paras. 6 and 9)

(*b*) Elaboration of an international convention against transnational organized crime and other possible international instruments.

Documentation

Report on the work of the ad hoc committee on the elaboration of the international convention against transnational organized crime and other possible instruments

(Legislative authority: Council resolution 1998/14, para. 17)

7. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.

Documentation

Report on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

(Legislative authority: Council resolutions 1997/30, para. 10, 1997/31, para. 16, 1997/32 and 1998/21, sect. II, para. 10, and sect. III, paras. 10 and 11)

8. Strategic management and programme questions:

(*a*) Strategic management;

(*b*) Programme questions;

(*c*) Appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.

Documentation

Report on strategic management

(Legislative authority: Commission resolution 7/1)

Note on the nomination of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

9. Provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Commission.

10. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eighth session.

1998/228. Appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 28 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to endorse the appointment, by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventh session, of Setsuo Miyazawa and Alejandro Reyes Posada to the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.

1998/229. Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 28 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs set out below, on the understanding that following the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, informal inter-sessional meetings would be convened at Vienna, at no additional cost, to finalize the items to be included in the provisional agenda for the forty-second session and to review the issue of the duration of the regular session of the Commission.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE FORTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

   Documentation

   Annotated provisional agenda

3. General debate and policy directives.

   Documentation

   Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

4. Reduction of illicit demand for drugs.

   (Special topic: Youth and drugs)

   (Review of national studies on the social and economic costs of drug abuse)

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse

   (Special report or reports requested by the Commission)

5. Illicit drug traffic and supply, including reports of subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

   Documentation

   World situation with regard to illicit drug trafficking: report of the Secretariat

   Action taken by subsidiary bodies of the Commission: report of the Secretariat

6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

   (*a*) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

   Documentation

   Report of the Executive Director, as necessary

   (*b*) International Narcotics Control Board;

   Documentation

   Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1998

   Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1998 on the implementation of article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

   (*c*) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

   Documentation

   Note by the Secretariat, as necessary

7. Implementation of the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session

8. Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly and implementation of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on international drug control.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretariat on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on international drug control

9. Administrative and budgetary matters.

   Documentation

   Note by the Executive Director, as necessary

1998/230. Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 28 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1997.[31]

1998/231. Enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, while not opposed to the enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, and recalling its resolution 1997/57 of 23 July 1997, decided not to pursue consideration of this question until the year 2000, given that the Committee was in a period of transition following the adoption of Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, that it was in the process of reviewing its methods of work and that the Secretariat was working under resource constraints.

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[31] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1997* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.XI.1).

1998/232. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(*a*) To grant the following three non-governmental organizations general consultative status:

Africa Muslims Agency
Asian Legal Resource Centre
Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique

(*b*) To reclassify six organizations from special to general consultative status, two organizations from the Roster to general consultative status and three organizations from the Roster to special consultative status, as follows:

General consultative status

Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University
Europe-Third World Centre
Greenpeace International
International Association of Lions Clubs, Lions Clubs International
International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres (IFS)
International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies (IINS)
Parliamentarians for Global Action (for Disarmament, Development and World Reform)
World Organization of the Scout Movement

Special consultative status

Catholic International Education Office (OIEC)
Dayemi Complex Bangladesh[32]
International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI)

1998/233. Applications from organizations of indigenous people not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for participation in the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to approve the participation of the following eight organizations of indigenous people not in consultative status with the Council in the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group whose establishment was authorized by the Council in its resolution 1995/32 of 25 July 1995:

Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East
Fédération des organisations amérindiennes de Guyane
Foundation of Aboriginal and Islander Research Action
Indigenous Initiative for Peace
Indigenous Women's Nexus
Navajo Working Group for Human Rights
Te Iwi Moriori Trust Board
Western Shoshone National Council.

1998/234. Expansion of the participation of non-governmental organizations on the Roster for the purposes of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, pursuant to its decision 1996/302 of 26 July 1996, decided to approve the request of the following eleven non-governmental organizations that are on the Roster for the purposes of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development to expand their participation in other fields of the Council:

Asociaçao Pernambucana de Defensa de Natureza (ASPAN)
Deutscher Naturschützring (DNR)
Institute for Planetary Synthesis
Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP)
International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)
International Wood Products Association (IHPA)
People-Centered Development Forum (PCD Forum)
Sustainable Agriculture and Self-Help (SASH)
United Church of Christ - Board for World Ministries
World Business Council for Sustainable Development
World Economy, Ecology and Development Association

1998/235. Additional applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(*a*) To grant the following one hundred and fifty-three non-governmental organizations consultative status:

General consultative status

African-American Islamic Institute
Al-Khoei Foundation
International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW)
Red de Salud de las Mujeres Latinoamericanas y del Caribe

Special consultative status

8th Day Centre for Justice
Action for Integrated Rural and Tribal Development Social Service Society (AIRTDS)
Advisory Commission of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD)
African Services Committee, Inc.
Agencia Latinoamericana de Información (ALAI)
Agir ensemble pour les droits de l'homme
Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK) Law and Mediation Centre
All-Russian Society of Disabled People
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
ANPED - Northern Alliance for Sustainability

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[32] Formerly called Dayemi Complex, Dhaka.

Arab Women's Forum (AISHA)
Asian Alliance of Appropriate Technology Practitioners, Inc.
Associação de Mulheres Contra a Violência (AMCV)
Association algérienne de solidarité aux malades respiratoires
Association des états généraux des étudiants de l'Europe (AEGEE)
Association des études internationales
Association des femmes éducatrices du Mali (AFEM)
Association européenne contre les violences faites aux femmes au travail (AVFT)
Association for Assistance to Families with Disabled Children
Association internationale des mouvements familiaux de formation rurale (AIMFR)
Association of Interbalkan Women's Cooperation Societies
Association of Presbyterian Women of Aotearoa, New Zealand
Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Small Scale Industries
Association pour la promotion de l'emploi et du logement (APEL)
Association pour le progrès et la défense des droits des femmes maliennes (APDF)
Association to Aid Refugees, Japan (AAR, Japan)
Azerbaijan Women and Development Centre (AWDC)
Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Seniorenorganisationen (BAGSO)
Banana Kelly Community Improvement Association, Inc.
BUSCO - Business Association for the World Social Summit
Canadian Federation of University Women
Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women
Catholics for a Free Choice (CFFC)
Centre for Psychology and Social Change
Centre for Women, the Earth, the Divine
Centre of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR)
Centre of People's Help "Blagovest" - International Public Charitable Organization (CHP "Blagovest")
Centro di Ricerca e Documentazione Febbraio 74 (CERFE)
Children Australia
China Disabled Persons' Federation (CDPF)
China Society for Human Rights (CSHRS)
Chinese Immigrants Services, Inc.
Chinese Women's Association of America/Chinese Women's Association America Foundation
Christian Aid
Cohort for Research on Environment, Urban Management and Human Settlement (CREUMHS)
Collectif sénégalais des Africaines pour la promotion de l'éducation relative à l'environnement (COSAPERE)
Comité catholique contre la faim et pour le développement (CCFD)
Comité national d'action pour les droits de l'enfant et de la femme (CADEF)
Couple to Couple League International, Inc.
Croatian World Congress
Deutsche Welthungerhilfe (DWHH)
Eagle Forum
EcoPeace-Middle East Environment NGO Forum
Fédération européenne des femmes actives au foyer (FEFAF)
Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia
Femmes actives au foyer
Flora Tristan, Peruvian Women's Centre
Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE)
The Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute
Fundació Ecomediterrània
General Confederation of Trade Unions
Global Alliance for Women's Health
The Grail
Gram Bharati Samiti (GBS)
Grassroots Organization Operating Together in Sisterhood (GROOTS)
Group for International Solidarity (GRINSO)
Il Cenacolo
INCORVUZ Corporation
Institute of Global Education
Institute of Inter-Balkan Relations
Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development
Interfaith International
International Association for Feminist Economics
International Club for Peace Research (ICPR)
International Council of Chemical Associations
International First Aid Society
International Geothermal Association
International Health Awareness Network
International Investment Centre
International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE)
International Psychoanalytical Association Trust
International Research Foundation for Development (IRFD)
International Union of Psychological Science (IUPSYS)
International Wages for Housework Campaign
International Women Count Network (IWCW)
International Women's Democracy Centre
International Women's Writing Guild
International Women's Year Liaison Group
International Youth Foundation
IPAS
Italian Association for Women in Development (AIDOS)
Japanese Association of International Women's Rights (JAIWR)
JMJ Children's Fund of Canada, Inc.
Kongres Wanita Indonesia (KOWANI) - The Indonesian Women's Congress
Korean Federation for Environmental Movement
Korean National Council of Women
Ladies Charitable Society (LCS)
MAMTA - Health Institute for Mother and Child

Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights (MFHR)
Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers
Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Inc.
Mauritius Family Planning Association
Mennonite Central Committee
Mercy Corps International
Miramed Institute
Movimento Italiano Casalinghe (MOICA)
National Association for Resource Improvement (NARI)
National Coordinator for Human Rights
National Federation of International Immigrant Women Associations (RIFFI)
National Federation of Women for Democracy
National Women's Union of Romania
New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council
Organization for Defending Victims of Violence
Organization for the Solidarity of the Peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America (OSPAAL)
Organisation tunisienne des jeunes médicins sans frontières
Paukuutit Inuit Women's Association of Canada
People's Decade of Human Rights Education (PDHRE)
Presbyterian Church (USA)
Program for Research and Documentation for Sustainable Development (PROSUS)
Programme national de prévention, de lutte et d'assistance humanitaire aux victimes des catastrophes naturelles (PRONAPLUCAN)
Rainforest Foundation International
Real Women of Canada
Sto. Nino Organic Farmers, Inc.
Saviya Development Foundation
School Sisters of Notre Dame
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
Social Ecology Foundation
Soroptomist Union of Greece
Teresian Association
Tiye International
Unión de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba
Union nationale de la femme tunisienne
Unione Intercontinentale Casalinghe (UNICA)
WINVISIBLE - Women with Visible and Invisible Disability
Womankind Worldwide
Women Against Rape
Women and Child Development Association
Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF)
Women's Crisis Centre, The
Women's Forum Scotland (WFS)
Women's Intercultural Network
World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC)

Roster

Armenian International Women's Association
Armenian Relief Society
International Buddhist Foundation (IBF)
International Wages Due Lesbians
Liga Para Sa Mga Lolang Pilipina (LILA Pilipina)
Netherlands Council of Women
Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (SSAA)

(*b*) To reclassify four organizations from Roster to special consultative status:

International Council of Psychologists
International Young Catholic Students
Universal Esperanto Association
World Organization Against Torture

1998/236. Implementation of Economic and Social Council decision 1996/302

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to grant Roster status to the following eight non-governmental organizations:

Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development
FORJA
Foundation for Global Community
Free Youth Association of Bucharest
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
Rainforest Alliance
Scientific and Cultural Society of Pakistan
Shirkat Gah

1998/237. Resumed 1998 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to authorize the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to hold a resumed session for a period of one week in order to complete the work of its 1998 session.

1998/238. Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of non-governmental organizations

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its resumed 1997 session;[33]

(*b*) Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the first part of its 1998 session;[34]

(*c*) Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the second part of its 1998 session;[35]

(*d*) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the Secretariat.[36]

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[33] E/1998/8.

[34] E/1998/72.

[35] E/1998/72/Add.1.

[36] E/1998/43 and Corr.1

1998/239. Note by the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.[17]

1998/240. Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-first session.[18]

1998/241. The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/6 of 27 March 1998:[39]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend for three years the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination and to request the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out his mandate, to seek and receive credible and reliable information from Governments, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(*b*) Approved the request of the Commission to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of mercenary activities on the right of peoples to self-determination, and when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States affected by the activities of mercenaries.

1998/242. Adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/12 of 9 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to renew for a period of three years the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights in order that she might continue to undertake, in consultation with the relevant United Nations bodies and organizations and the secretariats of relevant international conventions, a global, multidisciplinary and comprehensive study of existing problems of and solutions to illicit traffic in and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes, in particular in developing countries, with a view to making concrete recommendations and proposals on adequate measures to control, reduce and eradicate those phenomena;

(*b*) Approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to make all necessary resources available to the Special Rapporteur to enable her to carry out her mandate successfully, in particular to provide her with adequate financial and human resources, including administrative support.

1998/243. Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/13 of 9 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Authorized the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to meet for five working days prior to the fiftieth session of the Subcommission, and approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to provide adequate resources and assistance to the Working Group in the discharge of its tasks, including adequate dissemination of information about the activities of the Working Group to Governments, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and organizations of indigenous people, in order to encourage the widest possible participation in its work;

(*b*) Approved the request of the Commission to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, taking into account the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, and the priority to be given to education and language at the sixteenth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and recognizing the importance of strengthening the capacity of indigenous people to develop their own solutions to their problems, to consider organizing a workshop for research and higher education institutions focusing on indigenous issues in education in order to improve exchange of information between such institutions and encourage future cooperation, in consultation with indigenous people and in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies.

1998/244. Migrants and human rights

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/16 of 9 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to reconvene the working group of intergovernmental experts on the human rights of migrants, on the same basis, for two periods of five working days prior to the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, in order that it might fulfil its mandate as set out in paragraph 3 of Commission resolution 1997/15 of 3 April 1997.

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[17] A/53/163-E/1998/79.

[18] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 8* (E/1998/28).

[39] Ibid., *Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

1998/245. Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/18 of 9 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend for three years the mandate of the Special Rapporteur appointed to examine incidents and governmental actions in all parts of the world that are incompatible with the provisions of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, and to recommend remedial measures, as appropriate.

1998/246. Rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/19 of 9 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities with a view to its holding one session of five working days annually.

1998/247. A permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/20 of 9 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to establish an open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc working group, from within existing overall United Nations resources, to elaborate and consider further proposals for the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system, and approved the request of the Commission that the ad hoc working group should meet for five working days prior to the fifty-fifth session of the Commission.

1998/248. The right to food

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/23 of 17 April 1998,[39] approved the decision of the Commission to endorse the proposal made by the Consultation on the Right to Adequate Food to have a follow-up meeting in 1998 to pursue the discussions on the content and means of implementation of the rights related to adequate food in order to provide the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a full set of recommendations concerning her response to the request of the World Food Summit contained in objective 7.4 (*e*) of the Plan of Action of the Summit,[40] and approved the decision in that regard to invite the High Commissioner to promote and encourage broader participation by experts from Member States, relevant specialized agencies and programmes, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations.

1998/249. Effects on the full enjoyment of human rights of the economic adjustment policies arising from foreign debt and, in particular, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/24 of 17 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission, in particular in the light of recent trends, to appoint, for a period of three years, a special rapporteur on the effects of foreign debt on the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, and approved the request of the Commission to the Special Rapporteur to submit to the Commission, on an annual basis, beginning at its fifty-fifth session, an analytical report on the implementation of Commission resolution 1998/24;

(*b*) Approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary assistance, in particular the staff and resources required to perform his or her functions.

1998/250. Human rights and extreme poverty

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/25 of 17 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of Commission to appoint, for a period of two years, an independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty:

(*a*) To evaluate the relationship between the promotion and protection of human rights and extreme poverty, including through the evaluation of measures taken at the national and international levels to promote the full enjoyment of human rights by persons living in extreme poverty;

(*b*) To take into account in particular the obstacles encountered and progress made by women living in extreme poverty as regards the enjoyment of their fundamental rights;

(*c*) To make recommendations and, as appropriate, proposals in the sphere of technical assistance;

(*d*) To report on these activities to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions, and make those reports available to the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on the Status of Women, as appropriate, for their sessions during the same years;

(*e*) To contribute to the General Assembly's evaluation in 2000 of the World Summit for Social Development by making his or her final report and conclusions available to the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to that evaluation;

(*f*) To make suggestions to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fifth session on the main points of a possible draft declaration on human rights and extreme poverty so that the Commission can consider the possibility of initiating, at the fifty-first session of the Subcommission on Prevention of

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[40] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the drafting by that body of a text for examination by the Commission and possible adoption by the General Assembly, taking into account in that regard, *inter alia*, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[41] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[41] the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[42] the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[43] the Agenda for Development[44] and the final report of the Special Rapporteur, Mr. Leandro Despouy.[45]

1998/251. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/26 of 17 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Approved the requests of the Commission:

(i) To the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-third session, a detailed report on the financial and personnel resources required for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and to the General Assembly to consider the possibility of providing the resources required for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade;

(ii) To the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to take duly into account the repeated appeals of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for the establishment of a mechanism within the Office of the High Commissioner as a focal point for coordinating all the activities of the Third Decade before they are carried out by the United Nations;

(*b*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to create an open-ended working group of the Commission to meet during the fifty-fifth session in order to review and formulate proposals for consideration by the Commission and for possible forwarding to the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance at its first session;

(*c*) Endorsed also the recommendations of the Commission to the General Assembly:

(i) To request the Secretary-General to designate as Secretary-General of the World Conference the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, who, in that capacity, would assume the main responsibility for the preparations for the Conference;

(ii) To declare 2001 a year of mobilization against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance with the aim of drawing the world's attention to the objectives of the World Conference and giving new momentum to the political commitment;

(*d*) Also approved the recommendations of the Commission:

(i) That the activities of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination be focused towards the preparatory process for the World Conference, and in that regard that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights organize symposia, seminars and worldwide consultations in 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(ii) That the World Conference result in a declaration and a programme of action to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(*e*) Further approved the requests of the Commission:

(i) To the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to help States and regional organizations to convene national and regional meetings or undertake other initiatives, including at the expert level, to prepare for the World Conference, and to the regional preparatory meetings to submit to the Preparatory Committee, through the High Commissioner, reports on the results of their deliberations, with concrete and pragmatic recommendations aimed at combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, which will be duly reflected in the draft final documents to be prepared by the Preparatory Committee;

(ii) To the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to inform the Preparatory Committee of the steps taken to prepare the World Conference.

1998/252. Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/27 of 17 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Approved the requests of the Commission to the Secretary-General:

(i) To provide adequate resources in respect of each human rights treaty body;

(ii) To make the most efficient use of existing resources in order to give the human rights treaty bodies adequate administrative support and better access to technical expertise and relevant information;

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[41] See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[42] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[43] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[44] General Assembly resolution 51/240, annex.

[45] See E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/13.

(iii) To seek in the next biennium the resources within the United Nations regular budget necessary to give the human rights treaty bodies adequate administrative support and better access to technical expertise and relevant information;

(iv) To report to the Commission on Human Rights, at its fifty-sixth session, on measures taken to implement Commission resolution 1998/27 and on obstacles to its implementation, and on measures taken or planned to ensure financing and adequate staff and information resources for the effective operation of the human rights treaty bodies;

(*b*) Also approved the request of the Commission to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to take the necessary measures to ensure that the revised *Manual on Human Rights Reporting* is translated into all the official languages of the United Nations at the latest by 31 December 2000.

1998/253. Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems that the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/33 of 17 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Authorized the Commission, as part of its efforts to impart a higher visibility to economic, social and cultural rights, to appoint, for a period of three years, a special rapporteur whose mandate would focus on the right to education as laid down in article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[40] and would comprise the tasks enumerated in paragraph 6 (*a*) (i) to (viii) of Commission resolution 1998/33;

(*b*) Requested the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance necessary for the execution of his mandate.

1998/254. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/38 of 17 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend for three years the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture;

(*b*) Approved the requests of the Commission to the Secretary-General to continue to include the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, and to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of an adequate and stable level of staffing, as well as the necessary technical facilities for the United Nations bodies and mechanisms dealing with torture, in order to ensure their effective performance.

1998/255. Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/40 of 17 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to renew for a period of three years the mandate of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, comprising five independent experts;

(*b*) Approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to ensure that the Working Group receives all the assistance and resources, especially a database on cases of enforced disappearance, that it requires to perform its functions, carry out and follow up missions, hold sessions in countries that will be prepared to receive it and update the database.

1998/256. The right to restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for victims of grave violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/43 of 17 April 1998,[39] approved the request of the Commission to the Chairman of the Commission to appoint an expert to prepare a revised version of the basic principles and guidelines elaborated by the former Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Mr. Theo van Boven, taking into account the views and comments provided by States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and to submit the revised version to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session with a view to its adoption by the General Assembly.

1998/257. Internally displaced persons

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/50 of 17 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons for a further period of three years.

1998/258. National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/55 of 17 April 1998,[39] approved the requests of the Commission to the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to provide, from within existing resources, the necessary assistance for holding meetings of the Coordinating Committee created by national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights during the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, under the auspices of and in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

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[40] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

(*b*) To continue to provide, from within existing resources and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, the necessary assistance for regional meetings of national institutions.

1998/259. Situation of human rights in Cambodia

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/60 of 17 April 1998,[39] approved the requests of the Commission to the Secretary-General:

(*a*) Through his Special Representative for human rights in Cambodia, in collaboration with the office in Cambodia of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to assist the Government of Cambodia in ensuring the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia, and to ensure adequate resources for the enhanced functioning of the operational presence in Cambodia of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and to enable the Special Representative to continue to fulfil his tasks expeditiously;

(*b*) To examine the request by the Cambodian authorities for assistance in responding to past serious violations of Cambodian and international law, including the possibility of the appointment, by the Secretary-General, of a group of experts to evaluate the existing evidence and propose further measures, as a means of bringing about national reconciliation, strengthening democracy and addressing the issue of individual accountability.

1998/260. Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/61 of 21 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for a further year, to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session on human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on the possibilities for the international community to assist with local capacity-building, and to request the Special Rapporteur to continue to keep a gender perspective in mind when seeking and analysing information.

1998/261. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/63 of 21 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, as contained in Commission resolution 1992/58 of 3 March 1992,[47] for a further year, and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session, and to keep a gender perspective in mind when seeking and analysing information;

(*b*) Approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to continue to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur to enable him to discharge his mandate fully, and to pursue all efforts to ensure that the Special Rapporteur is authorized to visit Myanmar.

1998/262. Situation of human rights in Nigeria

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/64 of 21 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission:

(*a*) To extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Nigeria, as contained in Commission resolution 1997/53 of 15 April 1997,[48] for a further year, and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session, and to keep a gender perspective in mind when seeking and analysing information;

(*b*) To request the Secretary-General to continue to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur to enable him to discharge his mandate fully.

1998/263. Situation of human rights in Iraq

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/65 of 21 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq, as contained in Commission resolution 1991/74 of 6 March 1991[49] and subsequent resolutions, for a further year, and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report on the situation of human rights in Iraq to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session;

(*b*) Approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to continue to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur to enable him to discharge his mandate fully, and to approve the allocation of sufficient human and material resources for the sending of human rights monitors to such locations as would facilitate improved information flow and assessment and help in the independent verification of reports on the situation of human rights in Iraq.

1998/264. Situation of human rights in the Sudan

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/67 of 21 April 1998:[39]

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[47] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[48] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[49] Ibid., *1991, Supplement No. 2* (E/1991/22), chap. II, sect. A.

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan for an additional year, and approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to give the Special Rapporteur all necessary assistance, from within existing resources, in the discharge of his mandate;

(*b*) Approved the requests of the Commission to the Special Rapporteur to report to the Commission on the future need for human rights field officers, with the understanding that the Commission would, at its fifty-fifth session, reassess such need, and to report his findings and recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

1998/265. Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/68 of 21 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions for three years, and approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with an adequate and stable level of human, financial and material resources in order to enable him to continue to carry out his mandate effectively, including through country visits.

1998/266. Situation of human rights in Rwanda

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/69 of 21 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend for a further year the mandate of the Special Representative of the Commission on the situation of human rights in Rwanda to make recommendations on how to improve the human rights situation in Rwanda, to facilitate the creation and effective functioning of an independent national human rights commission in Rwanda, and further to make recommendations on situations in which technical assistance to the Government of Rwanda in the field of human rights might be appropriate, and approved the request of the Commission to the Special Representative to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session, in accordance with his mandate, as well as its request to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Representative with such financial assistance as he might require to discharge his mandate.

1998/267. Situation of human rights in Afghanistan

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/70 of 21 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Approved the requests of the Commission to the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure a human rights presence in the context of the United Nations activities in Afghanistan in order to provide advice and training in the field of human rights to all the Afghan parties, as well as to the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field;

(*b*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for one year, and to request the Special Rapporteur to report on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

1998/268. Situation of human rights in Equatorial Guinea and assistance in the field of human rights

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/71 of 21 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Equatorial Guinea for one year, and approved the requests of the Commission to the Special Rapporteur to submit to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session a report stressing, in particular, recommendations on technical assistance needs of Equatorial Guinea in the fields of human rights and democracy, and to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary assistance for the discharge of his mandate.

1998/269. The right to development

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998,[39] endorsed the recommendation of the Commission, in view of the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development as elaborated in the Declaration on the Right to Development,[50] to establish a follow-up mechanism, initially for a period of three years, consisting of:

(*a*) The establishment of an open-ended working group to meet for a period of five working days each year, after the fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, with a mandate:

- (i) To monitor and review progress made in the promotion and implementation of the right to development as elaborated in the Declaration on the Right to Development, at the national and international levels, providing recommendations thereon and further analysing obstacles to its full enjoyment, focusing each year on specific commitments in the Declaration;
- (ii) To review reports and any other information submitted by States, United Nations agencies, other relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations on the relationship between their activities and the right to development;
- (iii) To submit to the Commission on Human Rights for consideration a sessional report on its deliberations, including advice to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with regard to the implementation of the right to development, and suggesting possible programmes of technical assistance at the request of interested countries with

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[50] General Assembly resolution 41/128, annex.

the aim of promoting the implementation of the right to development;

(*b*) The appointment by the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights of an independent expert with high competence in the field of the right to development, with a mandate to submit to the working group at each of its sessions a study on the current state of progress in the implementation of the right to development as a basis for a focused discussion, taking into account, *inter alia*, the deliberations and suggestions of the working group.

1998/270. Human rights and thematic procedures

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/74 of 22 April 1998,[39] approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to ensure, in implementing the United Nations budget for the current biennium, the availability of the resources necessary for the effective implementation of all human rights thematic mandates, including any additional tasks entrusted to the thematic special rapporteurs, representatives, experts and working groups by the appropriate United Nations organs.

1998/271. Rights of the child

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/76 of 22 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decisions of the Commission:

(*a*) With regard to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to request the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities from the United Nations regular budget for the effective and expeditious performance of the functions of the Committee, while noting the temporary support given by the Plan of Action of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[51] based on voluntary contributions, which provide human resources to assist the Committee with the increasing workload due to the near universalization of the Convention, and to request the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to brief Governments regularly on the implementation of the Plan of Action;

(*b*) With regard to the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to renew her mandate for a further three years, to request the Secretary-General to provide her with all necessary assistance, and to urge all relevant parts of the United Nations system to provide her with comprehensive reporting to make the full discharge of her mandate possible and to enable her to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and a report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fifth session;

(*c*) With regard to the question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to request the working group on the question of a draft optional protocol to meet for a period of two weeks prior to the next session of the Commission on Human Rights and to redouble its efforts with the aim of finalizing the draft optional protocol by the tenth anniversary of the Convention, and to that end to encourage the Chairman of the working group to conduct broad informal consultations;

(*d*) With regard to the draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflicts, to encourage the Chairman of the working group on the draft optional protocol to conduct broad informal consultations with the aim of promoting an early agreement on the optional protocol and to produce a report thereon by the end of 1998, including, if possible, recommendations and/or ideas on the best way for the formal negotiations to proceed; to request the working group to meet in early 1999, primarily to consider the report of the Chairman on the status of the informal consultations, which should be available well in advance, and to report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fifth session; to request the Secretary-General to give the necessary support to the working group to meet for a maximum of two weeks, if the working group decides that an agreement on the draft optional protocol is possible at that session; and to reaffirm the aim of finalizing the draft optional protocol by the tenth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(*e*) With regard to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children, to recommend that the Secretary-General ensure that the necessary support is made available to him for the effective performance of his mandate, to encourage the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide him with support, and to call upon other institutions and States to provide voluntary contributions for that purpose.

1998/272. Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/79 of 22 April 1998:[39]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for one year, and welcomed the appointment of a new Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

(*b*) Approved the request of the Commission to the new Special Rapporteur, in addition to the activities mandated in Commission resolutions 1994/72 of 9 March 1994,[52] 1996/71 of 23 April 1996[53] and 1997/57 of 15 April 1997:[48]

(i) To work with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on behalf of the

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[51] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

[52] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[53] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1996/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

United Nations in dealing with the question of missing persons, including by participation in the International Commission on Missing Persons advisory group and other groups involved in missing persons issues, such as those chaired by the Office of the High Representative and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and to include in his report to the Commission on Human Rights information about activities concerning missing persons in the former Yugoslavia;

(ii) To pay particular attention to the situation of persons belonging to ethnic minorities, displaced persons, refugees and returnees who fall within his mandate;

(iii) To address human rights issues that transcend the borders between the States covered by his mandate and that could be addressed only through concerted action in more than one country;

(*c*) Also approved the requests of the Commission that the Special Rapporteur carry out missions to:

(i) Bosnia and Herzegovina;

(ii) The Republic of Croatia, including Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium;

(iii) The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including to Kosovo, as well as to Sandjak and Vojvodina;

(*d*) Endorsed the decisions of the Commission:

(i) To request the Special Rapporteur to report to the Commission, at its fifty-fifth session, on the work carried out in fulfilment of his mandate, and to submit interim reports to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

(ii) To request the Secretary-General to continue to make the reports of the Special Rapporteur available to the Security Council and to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

(iii) To urge the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to make all necessary resources available for the Special Rapporteur to carry out his mandate successfully, in particular to provide him with adequate staff based in the countries of the mandate to ensure effective continuous monitoring of the human rights situation in those countries and coordination with other international organizations involved.

1998/273. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/80 of 22 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Representative of the Commission on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as contained in Commission resolution 1984/54 of 14 March 1984,[54] for a further year, to request the Special Representative to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session, and to keep a gender perspective in mind when seeking and analysing information, and to request the Secretary-General to continue to give all necessary assistance to the Special Representative to enable him to discharge his mandate fully.

1998/274. Situation of human rights in Burundi

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/82 of 24 April 1998,[39] endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi for one year, and to request him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and a report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session, and to give his work a gender-specific dimension.

1998/275. Question of resources for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the human rights activities of the United Nations

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/83 of 24 April 1998,[39] approved the appeal of the Commission to the Council, the Secretary-General and the General Assembly to take all necessary steps, without delay, to secure for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and for other relevant components of the Organization regular budget resources for the current and future bienniums that would be sufficient to permit the effective fulfilment of the responsibilities and mandates established by Member States and commensurate with the importance assigned by the Charter of the United Nations to the promotion and protection of human rights.

1998/276. Effects of structural adjustment policies on the full enjoyment of human rights

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1998/102 of 9 April 1998:[55]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to authorize the open-ended working group on structural adjustment programmes and economic, social and cultural rights to meet for one week, at least four weeks before the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, to consider the report of the independent expert and the comments received thereon, and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session;

(*b*) Decided, in order that the working group might carry out its mandate:

(i) To request the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the independent expert to Governments,

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[54] Ibid., *1984, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[55] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. B.

United Nations bodies (in particular the regional commissions), the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations (in particular those involved in development), and academic institutions and organizations representing disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, and to invite them to submit their comments thereon to the working group at its next session;

(ii) To request the Secretary-General to invite and encourage non-governmental organizations involved in development and working in the field to participate actively in the sessions of the working group;

(iii) To request the Secretary-General to provide all the necessary assistance and resources to enable the working group to complete its task and provide the independent expert with all the necessary assistance and resources to carry out his mandate.

1998/277. Protection of the heritage of indigenous people

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1998/103 of 9 April 1998[55] and resolution 1997/13 of 22 August 1997 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,[56] approved the decision of the Commission to endorse the recommendation of the Subcommission that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights organize a seminar on the draft principles and guidelines for the protection of the heritage of indigenous people[57] with the participation of the Special Rapporteur, Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, representatives of Governments, United Nations bodies and organizations, specialized agencies and organizations of indigenous people, and competent indigenous persons.

1998/278. Human rights and terrorism

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1998/107 of 17 April 1998[55] and resolution 1997/39 of 28 August 1997 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities:[56]

(*a*) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to approve the appointment of Ms. Kalliopi K. Koufa as Special Rapporteur to conduct a comprehensive study on terrorism and human rights on the basis of her working paper,[58] and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit a preliminary report to the Subcommission at its fiftieth session, a progress report at its fifty-first session and a final report at its fifty-second session;

(*b*) Approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance necessary to enable her to accomplish her task.

1998/279. Question of human rights and states of emergency

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1998/108 of 21 April 1998[55] and resolution 1997/27 of 28 August 1997 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,[56] endorsed the decision of the Commission to request the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit to the Subcommission at its fifty-first session, and every second year thereafter, a list of States in which a state of emergency was proclaimed or was continued during the reporting period.

1998/280. Dates of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1998/110 of 22 April 1998,[55] approved the recommendation of the Commission, bearing in mind Council decisions 1994/297 of 29 July 1994 and 1995/296 of 25 July 1995, that the fifty-fifth session of the Commission be scheduled to take place from 15 March to 23 April 1999.

1998/281. Organization of the work of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1998/111 of 22 April 1998,[55] authorized, if possible within existing financial resources, thirty fully serviced additional meetings, including summary records, in accordance with rules 29 and 31 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, for the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, and approved the request of the Commission to the Chairman of the Commission at its fifty-fifth session to make every effort to organize the work of the session within the times normally allotted so that the additional meetings authorized by the Council would be utilized only if they proved to be absolutely necessary.

1998/282. Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people.[59]

1998/283. Report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council:

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[56] See E/CN.4/1998/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/50, chap. II, sect. A.

[57] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/31, annex.

[58] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/28.

[59] A/53/153-E/1998/75.

(*a*) Welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;[60]

(*b*) Commended the Secretary-General for his comprehensive and in-depth review of development challenges in Africa;

(*c*) Took note of the recommendations contained in the report;

(*d*) Decided, subsequent to the consideration of the report by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, to undertake substantive discussions on the implementation of the relevant recommendations at its substantive session of 1999, taking into account views expressed by Governments during the discussion of the report of the Secretary-General by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

1998/284. Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the revised Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the revised Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries.[61]

1998/285. Issue of the review of the distribution of seats in the Executive Board of the World Food Programme

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(*a*) To continue consideration of the issue of the review of the distribution of seats in the Executive Board of the World Food Programme with a view to arriving at a recommendation to the General Assembly during a resumed substantive session of the Council but no later than at the beginning of the substantive work of the Second Committee of the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

(*b*) To postpone action on the draft resolution entitled "Input to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/8"[62] to a resumed substantive session of the Council in September or October 1998.

1998/286. Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund on its first regular session of 1998;[63]

(*b*) Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund at its first regular session of 1998;[63]

(*c*) Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund at its second regular session of 1998;[64]

(*d*) Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund at its annual session of 1998;[65]

(*e*) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its first regular session of 1998;[66]

(*f*) Annual reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to the Council;[67]

(*g*) Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund at its 1998 annual session;[68]

(*h*) Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund to the Council;[69]

(*i*) Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme;[70]

(*j*) Annual report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme to the Council;[71]

(*k*) Note by the Secretariat on the resource mobilization strategy for the United Nations Children's Fund.[72]

1998/287. Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.[73]

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[60] A/52/871-S/1998/318; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318. See also E/1998/88.

[61] E/1997/110.

[62] E/1998/L.17.

[63] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 16* (E/1998/36), part one.

[64] Ibid., part two.

[65] Ibid., part three.

[66] Ibid., *Supplement No. 15* (E/1998/35/Rev.1), part one.

[67] See E/1998/45.

[68] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 15* (E/1998/35/Rev.1), annex.

[69] E/1998/16, part one.

[70] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 17* (E/1998/37).

[71] E/1998/62.

[72] E/1998/70.

1998/288. Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1997 coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council on freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation;[74]

(*b*) Statement of commitment of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for action to eradicate poverty.[75]

1998/289. Reports of coordination bodies considered by the Economic and Social Council

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following reports:

(*a*) Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the first part of its thirty-eighth session;[76]

(*b*) Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1997.[77]

1998/290. Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council:

(*a*) Reaffirmed that General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, the Agenda for Development[44] and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as agreed conclusions 1995/1 of the Council,[78] provided a basis for intergovernmental integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields;

(*b*) Took into account the recommendation contained in the report of the Secretary-General that the United Nations system be encouraged to enhance national capacity efforts for data collection and analysis,[79] as well as the dialogue that took place during the session of the Council on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits, held from 13 to 15 May 1998;

(*c*) Recognized that Governments had the primary responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of conference outcomes, while the United Nations system had an important role to play in support of such national efforts, in particular those of developing countries;

(*d*) Recognized the need to start, on a step-by-step basis, an intergovernmental process on how to address better the need for relevant indicators to monitor the implementation of all aspects of conference outcomes at all levels;

(*e*) Decided to hold an informal meeting of the Council with panels of experts immediately after the resumed organizational session of the Council for 1999, of one to two days' duration, to consider in a comprehensive manner the work being carried out by the United Nations system and other relevant international and national institutions on basic indicators to measure progress towards the implementation of the integrated and coordinated follow-up to all aspects of major United Nations conferences and summits, including means of implementation, in the economic, social and related fields at all levels, with a view, as a first step, to taking stock and identifying overlapping duplication and gaps;

(*f*) Also decided that the informal meeting should have an interactive format so as to encourage dialogue among the participants and delegations, which dialogues should be summarized by the Secretariat;

(*g*) Requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on this matter, pursuant to subparagraph (*a*) of the present decision, which should be distributed well in advance of the meeting;

(*h*) Requested the Bureau of the Council, in consultation with the Secretariat, to establish arrangements for the meeting, securing a balance with respect to the participation of panellists from both developed and developing countries.

1998/291. Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with economic and environmental questions

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(*a*) Report of the Secretary-General on development of a vulnerability index for small island developing States;[80]

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[73] E/1998/60.

[74] E/1998/56.

[75] E/1998/73.

[76] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/53/16), part one.

[77] E/1998/21.

[78] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/50/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 22.

[79] E/1998/19, sect. III, recommendation (ix).

[80] A/53/65-E/1998/5.

(*b*) Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-second session;[81]

(*c*) Note by the Secretary-General on consumer protection and guidelines for sustainable development;[82]

(*d*) Report of the Secretary-General on the eighth Meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters;[83]

(*e*) Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/225;[84]

(*f*) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the fourteenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance;[85]

(*g*) Report of the Secretary-General on the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names.[86]

1998/292. Freedom of movement and population transfer

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1998/106 of 17 April 1998[55] and resolution 1997/29 of 28 August 1997 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,[56] approved the recommendation of the Commission that the report[87] of Mr. Awn Al-Khasawneh, Special Rapporteur on human rights and population transfer, be published and widely disseminated.

1998/293. Consideration by the Economic and Social Council of draft recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council:

(*a*) Invited the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to provide updated information on its requests, as contained in draft decisions I to IV recommended by the Committee at its sixteenth session;[88]

(*b*) Took note of General Assembly decision 52/463 of 31 March 1998, by which the Assembly would consider at its fifty-third session the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the question of honoraria payable to members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations;

(*c*) Decided that no action was required on draft decision IV since the dates for the meeting requested had passed.

1998/294. Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with social and human rights questions

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following reports:

(*a*) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action;[89]

(*b*) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;[90]

(*c*) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[91]

(*d*) Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Social and human rights questions: implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination";[92]

(*e*) Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions;[93]

(*f*) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.[94]

1998/295. Dates of sessions of subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council in 1999

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 1997/301 of 24 July 1997, in which it approved the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1998 and 1999 in the economic, social and related fields, approved the following dates for the sessions in 1999 of the subsidiary bodies of the Council listed below:

(*a*) Inter-sessional ad hoc open-ended working groups of the Commission on Sustainable Development, to meet at Headquarters from 22 to 26 February and from 1 to 5 March;

(*b*) Commission on the Status of Women, forty-third session, to meet at Headquarters from 1 to 19 March;

(*c*) Commission on Population and Development, thirty-second session, to meet at Headquarters from 22 to 30 March;

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[81] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 14* (E/1998/34).

[82] E/1998/63; see also E/CN.17/1998/5.

[83] E/1998/57.

[84] A/53/173-E/1998/87.

[85] E/1998/77.

[86] E/1998/47.

[87] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/23 and Corr.1.

[88] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 2* (E/1998/22), chap. I.

[89] E/1998/53.

[90] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/53/38/Rev.1), part one.

[91] E/1998/7 and Corr.1. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/53/12).

[92] E/1998/51.

[93] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 2* (E/1998/22).

[94] E/1998/84.

(*d*) Commission on Human Rights, fifty-fifth session, to meet at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 22 March to 30 April;

(*e*) Commission on Science and Technology for Development, fourth session, to meet at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 17 to 21 May.

1998/296. Development account

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolutions 52/220 of 22 December 1997 and 52/235 of 26 June 1998, as well as the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[95] looked forward to the outcome of the consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the utilization of the development dividend[96] under section 34 (Development account) of the programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999 by the relevant intergovernmental bodies.

1998/297. Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 5 August 1998, the Economic and Social Council, having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the privileges and immunities of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the independence of judges and lawyers,[97] considering that a difference had arisen between the United Nations and the Government of Malaysia, within the meaning of section 30 of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[98] with respect to the immunity from legal process of Dato' Param Cumaraswamy, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the independence of judges and lawyers, and recalling General Assembly resolution 89 (I) of 11 December 1946:

(*a*) Requested on a priority basis, pursuant to Article 96, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 89 (I), an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal question of the applicability of article VI, section 22, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations in the case of Dato' Param Cumaraswamy as Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the independence of judges and lawyers, taking into account the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1 to 15 of the note by the Secretary-General,[99] and on the legal obligations of Malaysia in that case;

(*b*) Called upon the Government of Malaysia to ensure that all judgements and proceedings in that matter in the Malaysian courts were stayed pending receipt of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice, which should be accepted as decisive by the parties.

1998/298. Themes for the 1999 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 5 August 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided on the following themes for its 1999 substantive session:

High-level segment

"The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women"

Coordination segment

"Development of Africa: implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development".

RESUMED SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1998

1998/202 D. Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, nominations, appointments and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 16 December 1998, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected the following twenty experts for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: Carlos Alberto Aguilar Molina (El Salvador), Hernán Bravo Trejos (Costa Rica), Dmytro Victorovych Derogan (Ukraine), Bernard Devin (France), Malin Falkenmark (Sweden), Siripong Hungspreug (Thailand), Jon Ingimarsson (Iceland), Ahmad Kahrobaian (Islamic Republic of Iran), Owen MacDonald Kankhulungo (Malawi), Paul M. Kodzwa (Zimbabwe), Markku Juhani Mäkelä (Finland), John Michael Matuszak (United States of America), Sergey M. Natalchuk (Russian Federation), Ainun Nishat (Bangladesh), Neculai Pavlovschi (Romania), Carlos Augusto Saldivar (Paraguay), Eddy Kofi Smith (Ghana), Wilhelmus C. Turkenburg (Netherlands), Raymond Marcio Wright (Jamaica) and Zhang Guocheng (China).

The Council postponed to a future session the election of three members from African States and one member from Asian States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2002.

COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected the following twenty-four Member States for a term beginning on 1 January 1999: AUSTRIA, BELARUS, BELGIUM, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CUBA, GERMANY, GREECE, INDONESIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), JAMAICA, PAKISTAN,

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[95] ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1 (1987), as amended by General Assembly resolution 42/215.

[96] E/1998/81.

[97] E/1998/94 and Add.1.

[98] General Assembly resolution 22 A (I).

[99] E/1998/94.

PARAGUAY, PORTUGAL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SLOVAKIA, SPAIN, TUNISIA, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

In accordance with Council resolution 1998/47 of 31 July 1998, lots were drawn to determine the initial terms of office of the elected members. It was thus decided that the following twelve States would serve for a term beginning on 1 January 1999 and expiring on 31 December 2000: AUSTRIA, BRAZIL, CUBA, JAMAICA, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SLOVAKIA, SPAIN, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and two members from Asian States; the following fourteen States would serve for a term beginning on 1 January 1999 and expiring on 31 December 2002: BELARUS, BELGIUM, BOLIVIA, CHINA, COLOMBIA, GERMANY, GREECE, INDONESIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), PAKISTAN, PARAGUAY, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA and TUNISIA.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of seven members from African States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot, and two members from Asian States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Council decided that FINLAND, which was to withdraw from the Commission effective 31 December 1998, would be replaced by SWEDEN for a term beginning on 1 January 1999 and expiring at the close of the seventh session of the Commission in 1999.

Appointments

COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The Council appointed the following twenty-four experts for a two-year term, on an exceptional basis, beginning on 1 January 1999: Mária Agusztinovics (Hungary), Maria Julia Alsogary (Argentina), Makhtar Diouf (Senegal), Essam El-Hinnawi (Egypt), Just Faaland (Norway), Eugenio B. Figueroa (Chile), Albert Fishlow (United States of America), Gao Shangquan (China), Leonid M. Grigoriev (Russian Federation), Patrick Guillaumont (France), Ryokichi Hirono (Japan), Taher Kanaan (Jordan), Louka T. Katseli (Greece), Nguyuru H. I. Lipumba (United Republic of Tanzania), Solita C. Monsod (Philippines), P. Jayendra Nayak (India), Mari Elka Pangestu (Indonesia), Milivoje Panić (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Park Eul Yong (Republic of Korea), Bishnodat Persaud (Guyana), Akilagpa Sawyerr (Ghana), Udo Ernst Simonis (Germany), Ruben Tansini (Uruguay) and Miguel Urrutia (Colombia).

The Council further decided that the term of office of future appointees would be three years.

Confirmations

The Council confirmed the nominations by their Governments of the following representatives on the functional commissions of the Council:

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Jean-Marie AKPOUE BROU (Côte d'Ivoire)
Alica WERTHEIMER BALETIĆ (Croatia)

STATISTICAL COMMISSION

Edmé KOFFI (Côte d'Ivoire)

Elections postponed from previous sessions

PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD OF THE JOINT AND CO-SPONSORED UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS/ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (HIV/AIDS)

The Council elected the following two Member States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: GABON and UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of one member from Asian States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

1998/299. Theme for the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment of the 1999 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 16 December 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided that the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment of its 1999 substantive session would be devoted to consideration of the theme "Poverty eradication and capacity-building".

1998/300. Issue of the review of the distribution of seats in the Executive Board of the World Food Programme

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 16 December 1998, the Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 50/8 of 1 November 1995 and Council decision 1998/285 of 31 July 1998, decided:

(*a*) To continue consideration, at its organizational session for 1999, of the issue of the review of the distribution of seats in the Executive Board of the World Food Programme with a view to arriving at a recommendation to be submitted to the General Assembly;

(*b*) To postpone action on the draft resolution entitled "Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme"[100] to its organizational session for 1999.

1998/301. Participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 16 December 1998, the Economic and Social Council, having considered General Assembly resolution 53/120 of 9 December 1998, decided:

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[100] E/1998/L.51.

(*a*) As an interim measure, and in conformity with the provisions of paragraph 53 of its resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, to invite those non-governmental organizations that were accredited to the Fourth World Conference on Women to attend the forty-third and forty-fourth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, including those parts of the sessions in which the Commission would act as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly, to be entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" and to be held in June 2000, provided that they had started the process of applying for consultative status in accordance with Council decisions 1996/315 of 14 November 1996 and 1997/298 of 23 July 1997;

(*b*) To request the Secretary-General to draw the attention of the non-governmental organizations accredited to the Fourth World Conference on Women to the provisions of the present decision and to the process established under Council resolution 1996/31.

1998/302. Postponement of consideration of the question of the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 16 December 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to postpone to its organizational session for 1999, consideration of the note verbale dated 13 August 1998 from the Permanent Mission of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General[101] and of the draft decision entitled "Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".[102]

1998/303. Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 16 December 1998, the Economic and Social Council, in the absence of any additional information from the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, decided that the existing arrangements for that Committee should continue.

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[101] E/1998/97.

[102] E/1998/L.53.

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